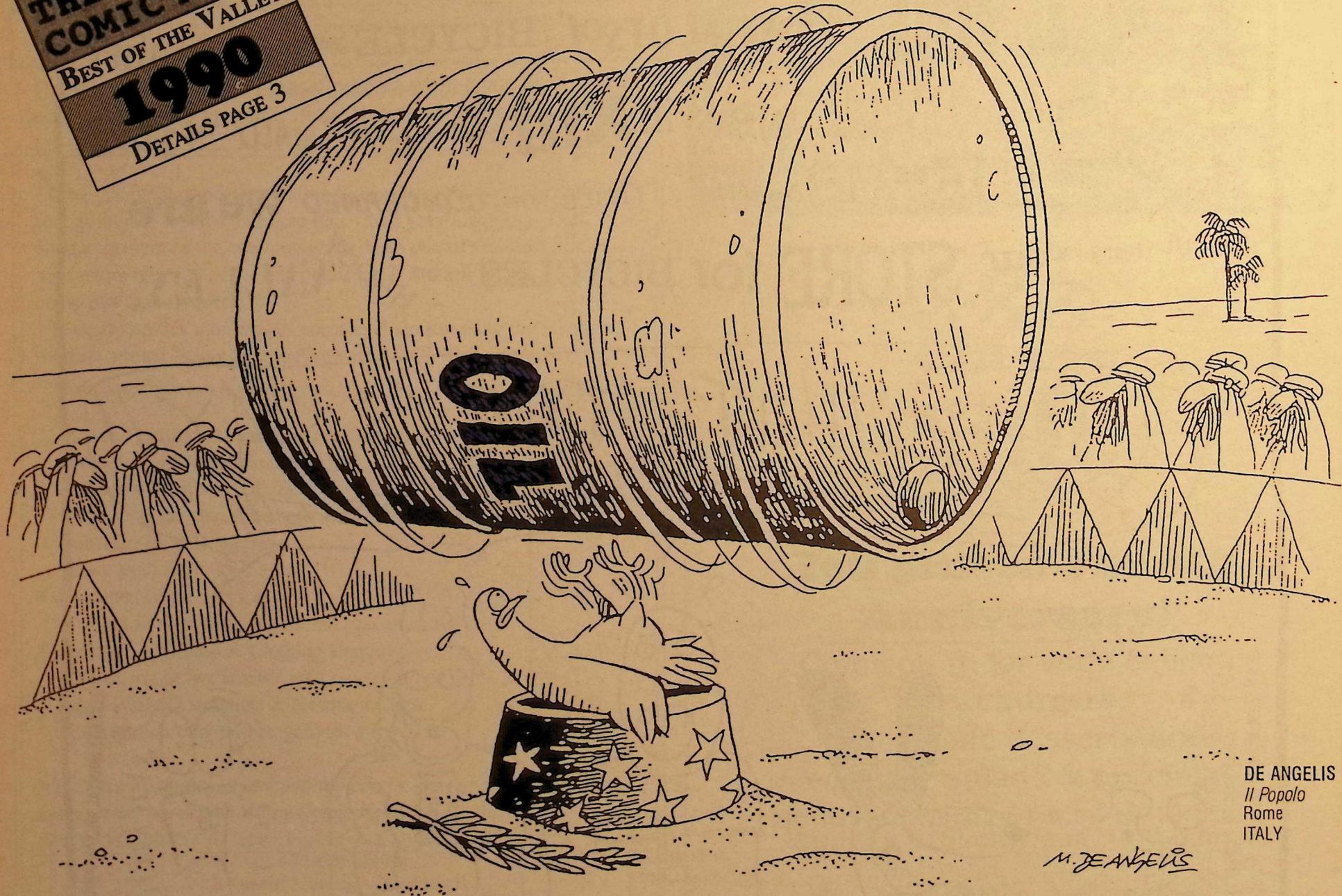


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The Valley **COMIC** N. E. W. S.

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DE ANGELIS
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ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

BICYCLE WORLD

NO BULLSHIT BIKES 253-7722

63 S. Pleasant St. Amherst MA. (Behind Bonducci's Cafe)
PRESENTS WALLY THE IDIOT IN:
"A REQUEST"

"RIDE Year ^{round} or DIE" is our *motiv*, and ^{WE}
mean *it!* If You ^{don't} buy ^{LOTS} of BICYCLE ^{world's} HIGH quality
Products, over ^{THE} next ^{weeks}, we will **Kill** one Member of "WALLY THE IDIOT"
Until You ^{give} in ^{to} our demands. That's how CONCERNED we are
about being your STORE for BICYCLES in ^{THE} HAPPY VALLEY.

DO WHAT THEY SAY!!
PPLEEEEEEAAAASSSE!!!

Why Seattle is a great place
to have a coronary



INSTANT MENTAL MILLIONAIRE

Ride year round or they die!!

EDITOR'S NOTES

COMIC NEWS SUBSCRIPTIONS

Great gift idea! For your friends, relatives, siblings or anyone else who needs a dose of comic relief. Mailed anywhere in the US.

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One sub \$17.00
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Back issues \$1 each. Please indicate what issue #s you want.

Having trouble getting your subscription? Please call or write, we would be happy to make it right.

Yes, believe it or not The Valley Comic News is one year old! It's sort of hard to believe, but time flies when you're laughing. The encouragement of the community has been one of the most motivating factors in my patience and persistence. I thank all my readers for being just that - readers.

To celebrate this momentous occasion I am releasing the results of the first annual Valley Comic News BEST OF THE VALLEY.

The winning businesses & their slogans:

| | Number of Votes Ads bought |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. Mona's Healthfood Restaurant & Organic Hair Salon "Waiter, is that a hair in my soup?" | 406 |
| 2. Antonio's Antiques & Pizza "How long has that slice been sitting there?" | 398 |
| 3. Bob's Books & Body Shop "If we can't fix it, look it up." | 354 |
| 4. Absentee Legal Services "I'm not in right now, but I'll bill you anyway." | 302 |
| 5. Karen's Copy Shop & Clothing Boutique "If it doesn't fit, we'll make it fit." | 273 |
| 6. Light Weight Computer & Nutrition Clinic "Eat right on only 640 megabytes a day." | 251 |

Mr. & Ms. business person, you too can be Best of the Valley! Just ask your ad rep at The Valley Comic News for details.

(VOTING COMMITTEE: Editor, Publisher and Ad reps)

413-586-2274

Editor and Publisher • David Hooks

Teacher trouble shooter and all around guru • Thom Zajac

Ad sales • David Hooks

Copying • Paradise Copies

Writing & humor consulting • Izzy Gesell

Printing • The Recorder - Greenfield, MA.

Team VCN mascot • Kyle Paws Kelly

Youngins • Ali, Claire and Owen

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A DIRTY HABIT

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WALT HANDELMAN

I'VE HAD IT
UP TO HERE
WITH THE
OIL EMBARGO!



WWI
THE WAR
TO END
ALL WARS

WWII
TO MAKE THE
WORLD SAFE
FOR
DEMOCRACY

WWIII
TO MAKE THE
COUNTRY
SAFE FOR
CHEAP
GASOLINE

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ON SECOND THOUGHT, A
FEW GOOD OL' AMERICAN OIL
WELLS DRILLING RIGHT OFF THE
SHORE MIGHT BE JUST WHAT
THE ENVIRONMENT NEEDS!

GAS PRICES ↑



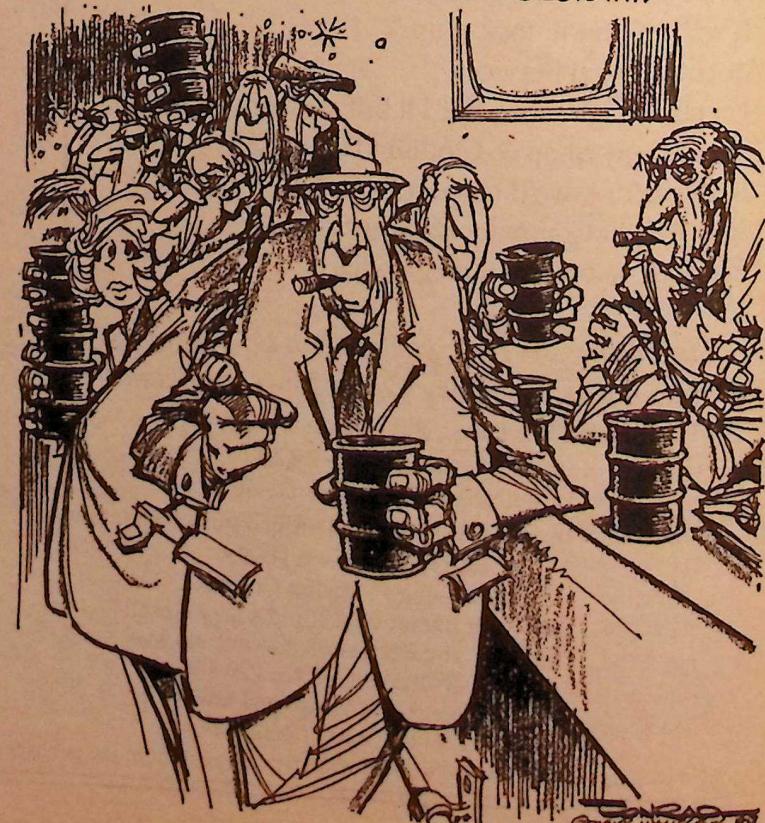
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TROOPS TO PROTECT THEM

HIGHER OIL PRICES BENEFIT
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SUPPORT OUR BOYS -
DRIVE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE!

"YOU WANNA TAKE AWAY OUR GUSTO...!?"



THANK YOU

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The Valley Comic News extends
heart felt thanks, for seeing us
through the first year.

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Sam Rush
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Izzy Gesell
(Humor Consultant)
Karen Craig
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(Small Business
Development Center)
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Development Center)
The Greenfield Recorder
(Patient printers)

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-The Valley Advocate
-The Daily Hampshire Gazette
-Collegian
-Many Hands

Much thanks goes to the cartoonists, and this crazy
world for providing such fertile subject matter.

And last but definitely not least, my family, without
whom I would have no sense of humor at all.

(Apologies to anyone I missed.)

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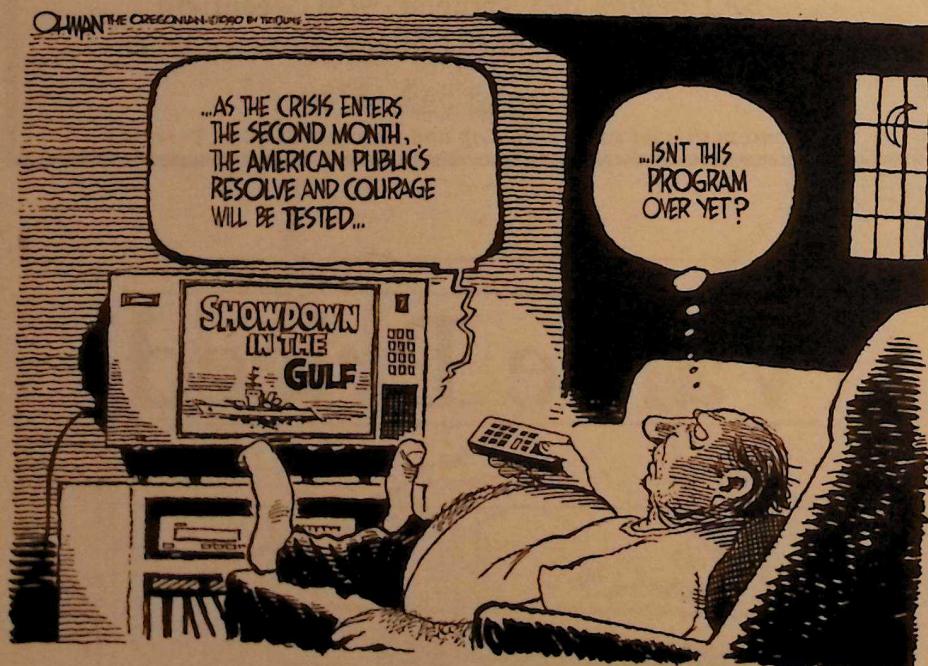
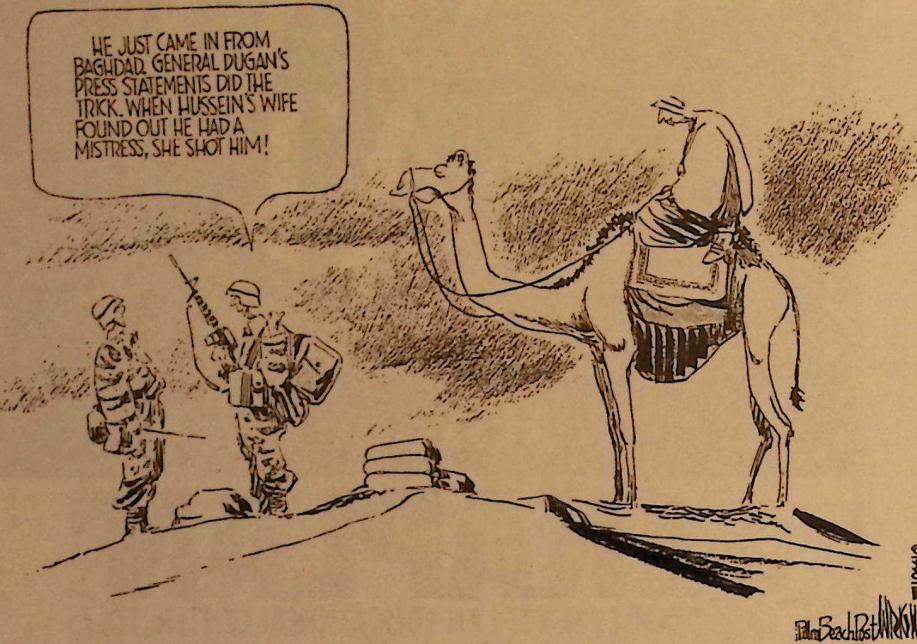
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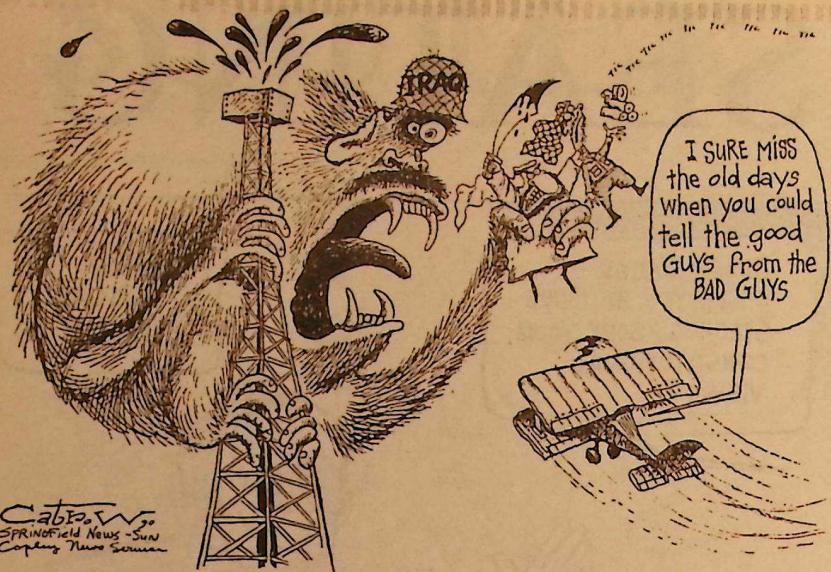
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- Specialty Hair & Skin Products featuring AVEDA.
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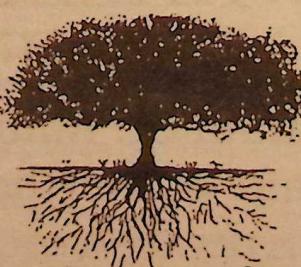
Michael Wilkins, proprietor, formerly of the University Campus Center.

**Special 1 Month anniversary offer
FREE marbleized brush & comb
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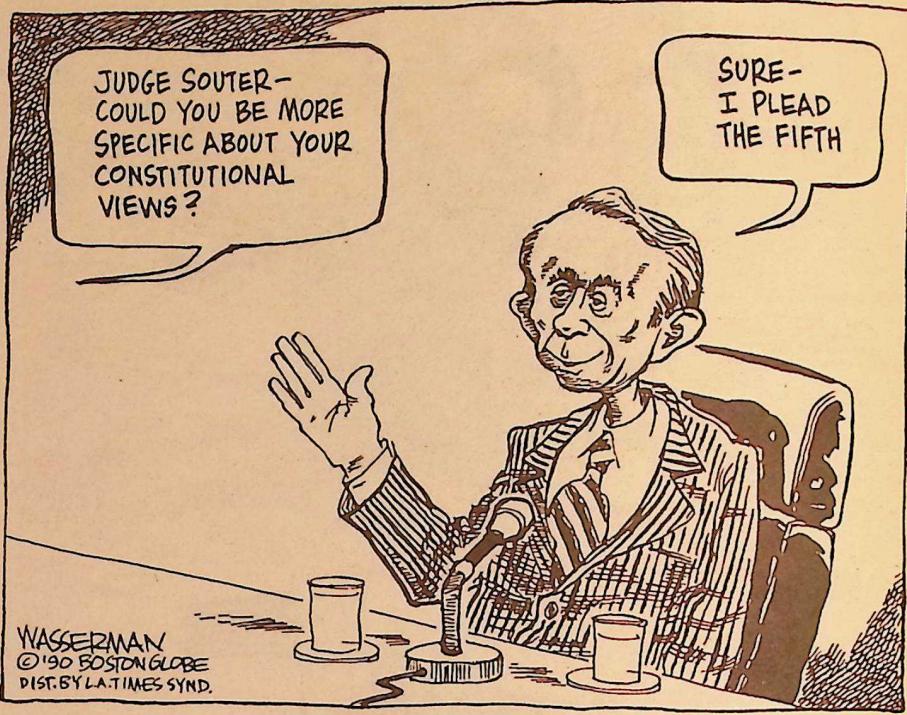
20 % OFF with this ad
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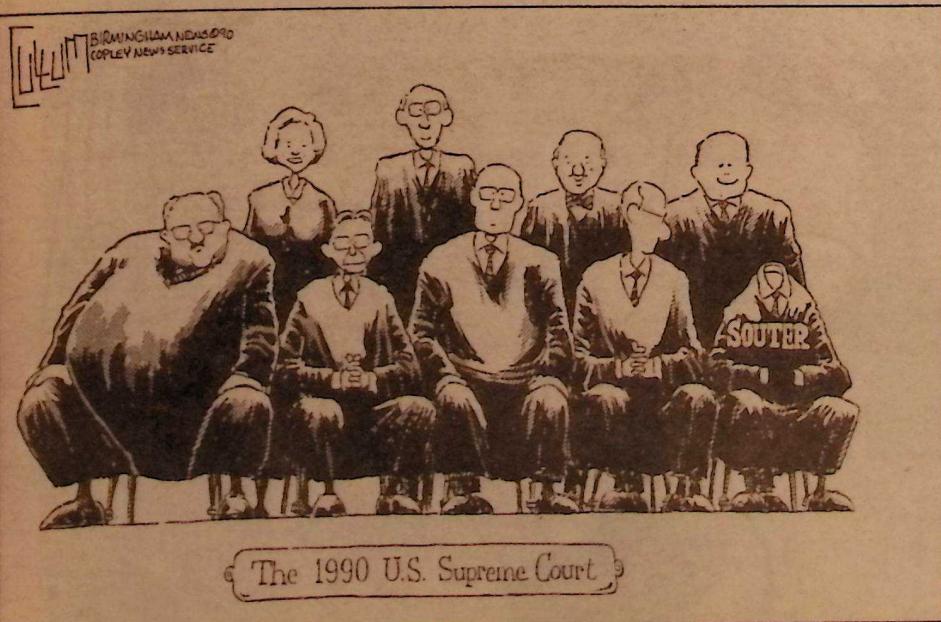
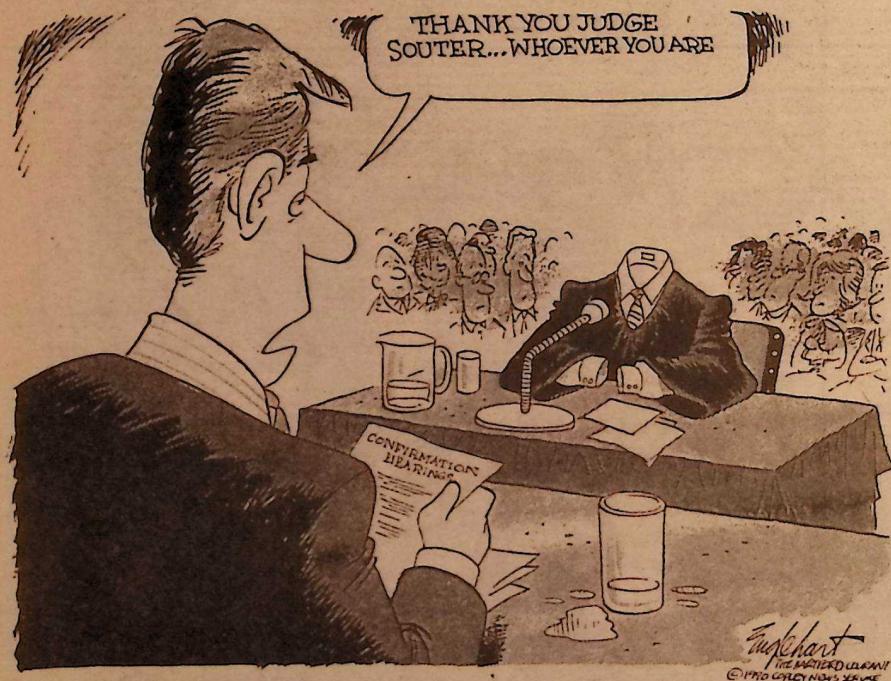
COLLEGE SUPPLIES • COMPUTER PRODUCTS
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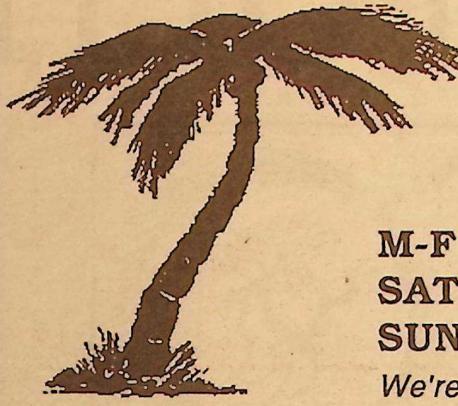


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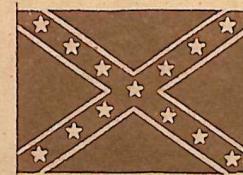
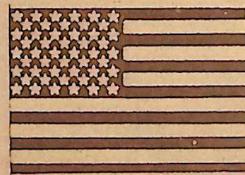
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(with this ad)



Open 7 Days
M-Sat 10-6pm
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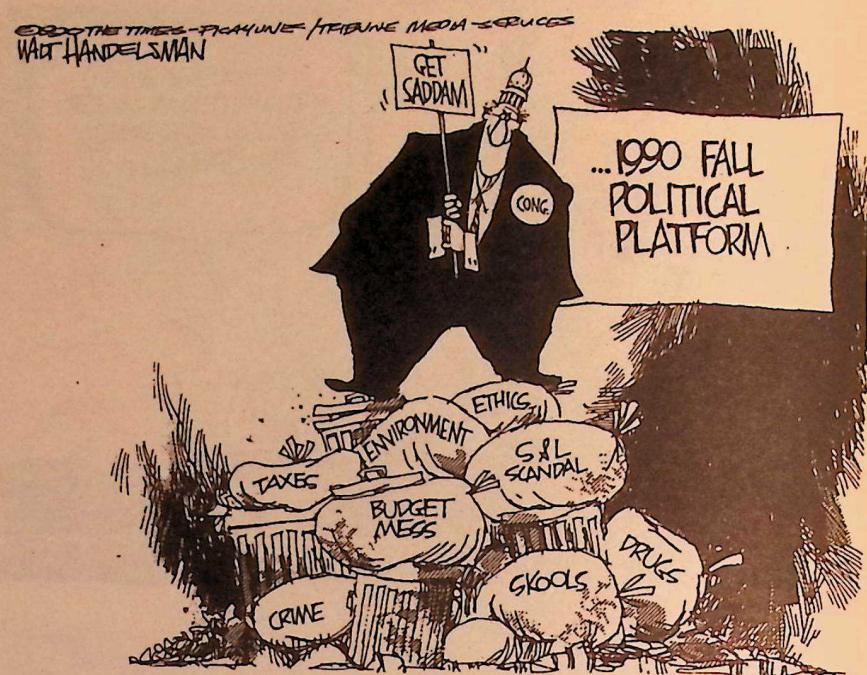
Zen/Yoga Meditation

Workshop - Oct. 14th
with Chris Kilham & Al Rapaport
8 a.m. - 5 p.m. \$20

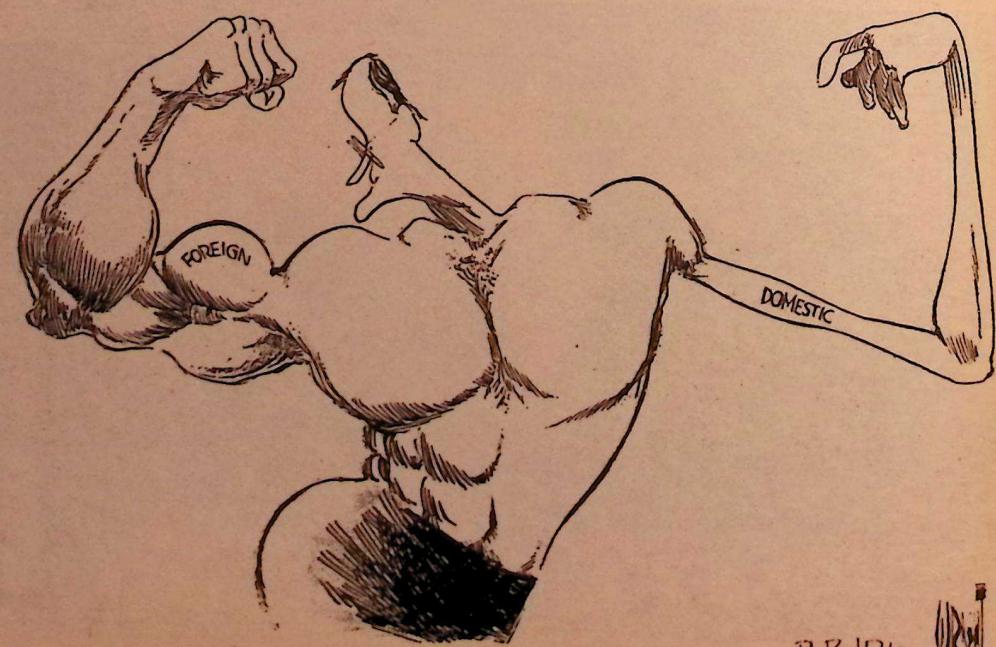
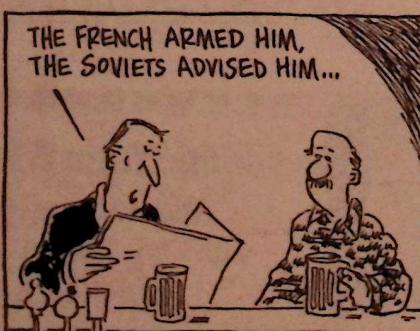
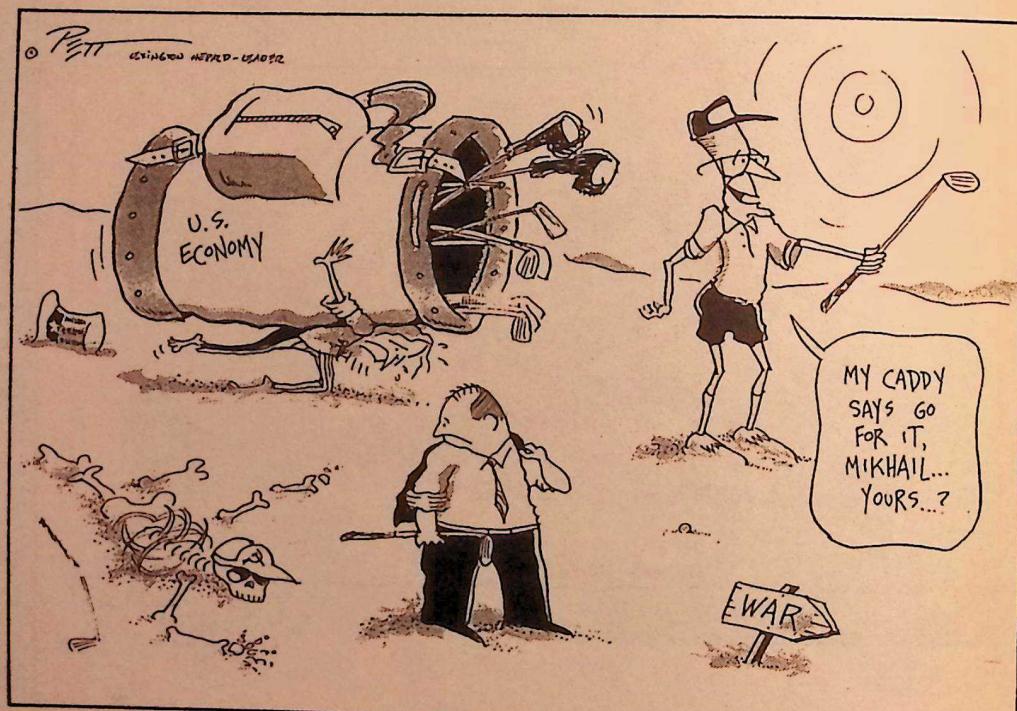


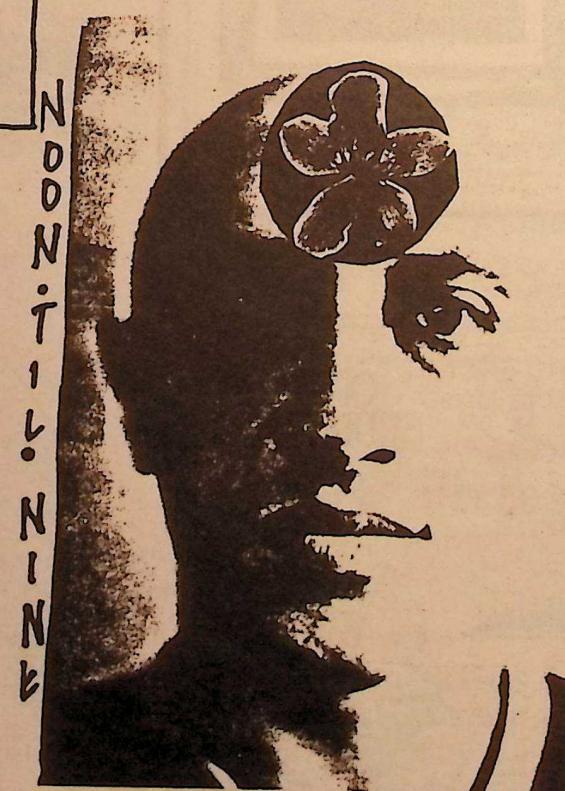
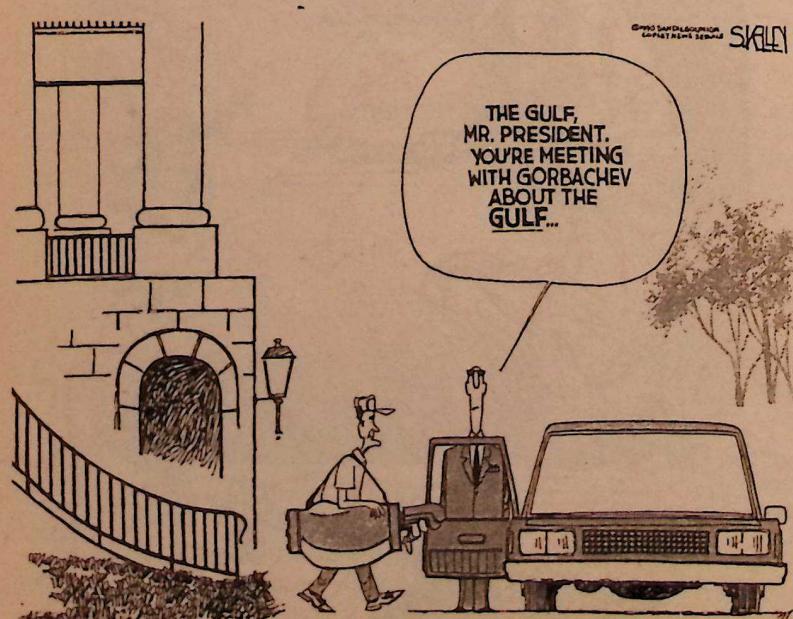
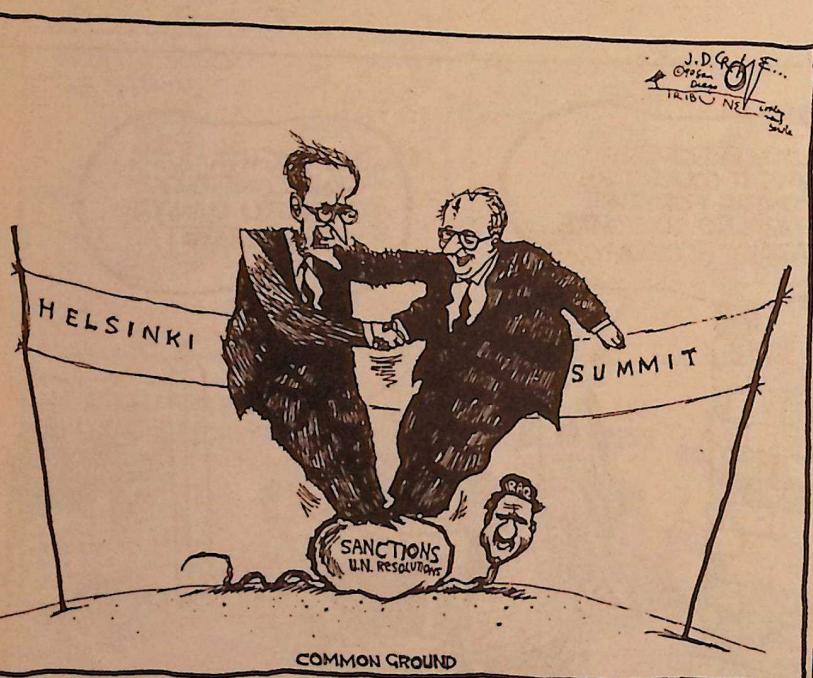
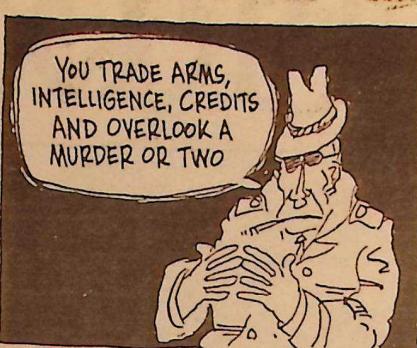
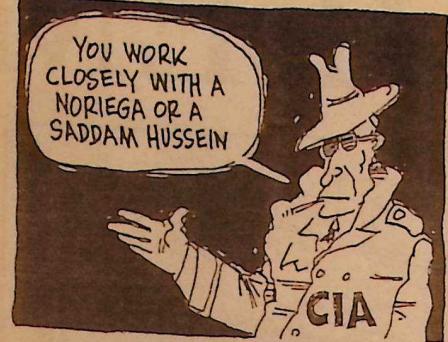
Join us for an information-packed day of instruction on yoga and meditation with two dynamic teachers. Chris Kilham draws on 20 years of experience with the Yogas of India and Tibet. He has taught throughout the U.S. and is the author of five books, including *Inner Power: Secrets of Tibet and the Orient*. Al Rapaport, with over 17 years experience in Zen and other forms of meditation, is the leader of the Northampton Zen Group and Producer of Whole Health Expos. This synthesis of Yoga and Meditation training is unlike any other workshop or system of study. Suitable for beginning or advanced practitioners. The cost is only \$20 for the day. Space is limited, and early registration is advised. Call 586-4269 to register or for more information.

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24 HOURS

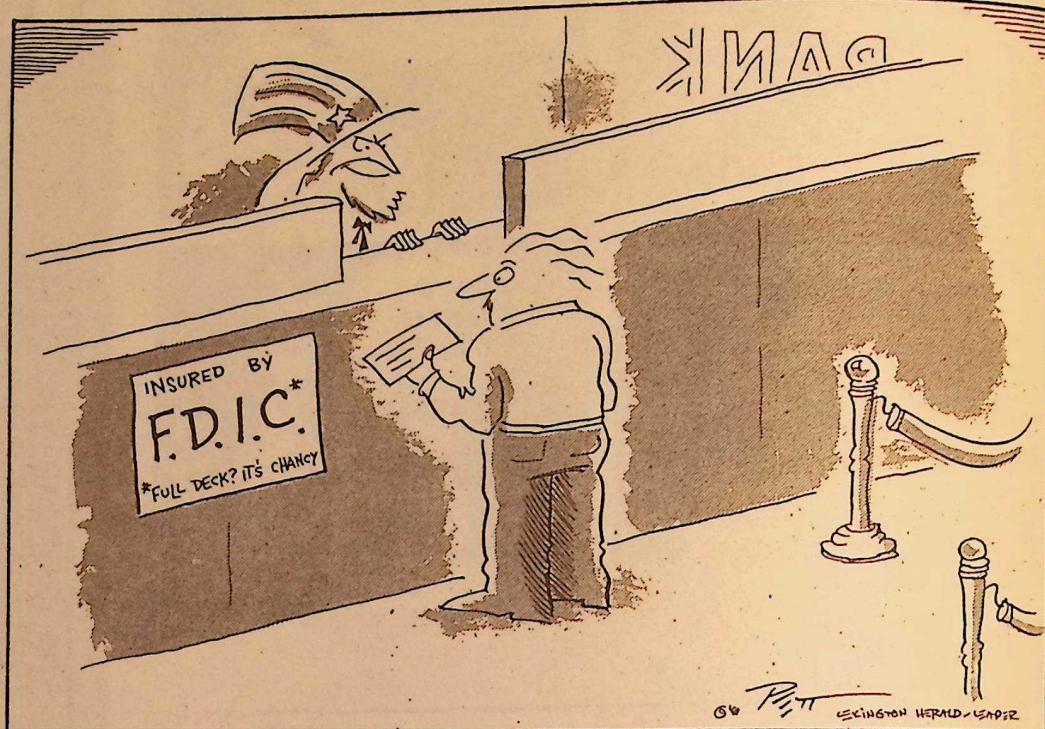
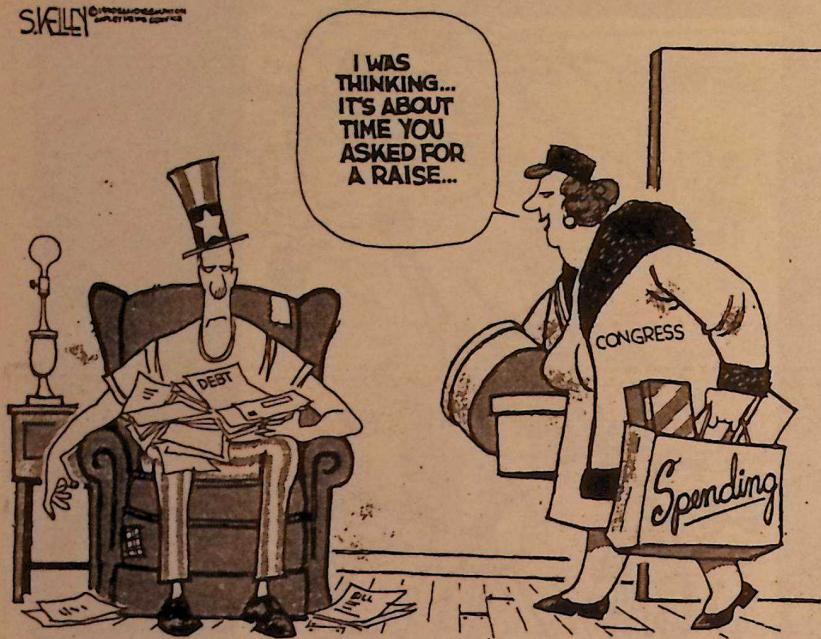
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something done real late, we'll
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220 North Pleasant St.
Amherst, MA.
253-2543

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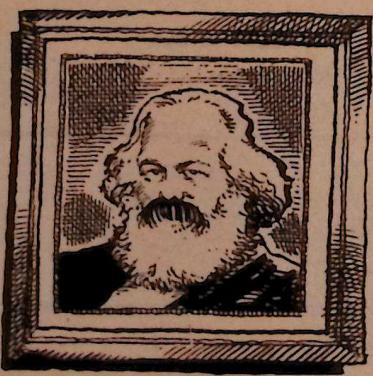
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SHADY © 2000 THE OREGONIAN



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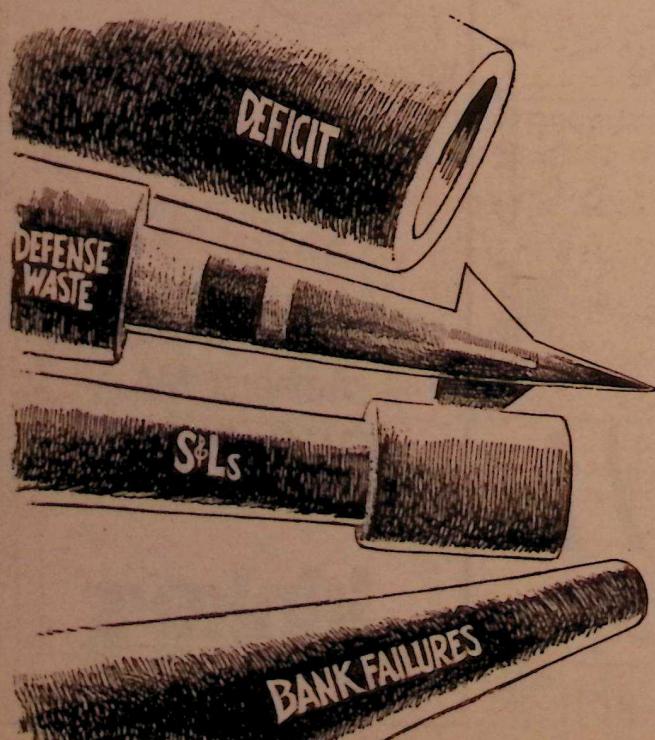
EAST GERMANY,
POST-UNIFICATION



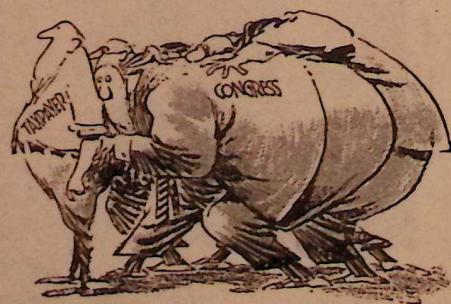
THE PRESIDENT
SAYS IT COULD TAKE
MONTHS FOR THE
EMBARGO TO CRIPPLE
GADDAM'S ECONOMY...

...HE OUGHTA JUST
SEND CONGRESS
OVER TO MANAGE
IRAQ'S BUDGET!...

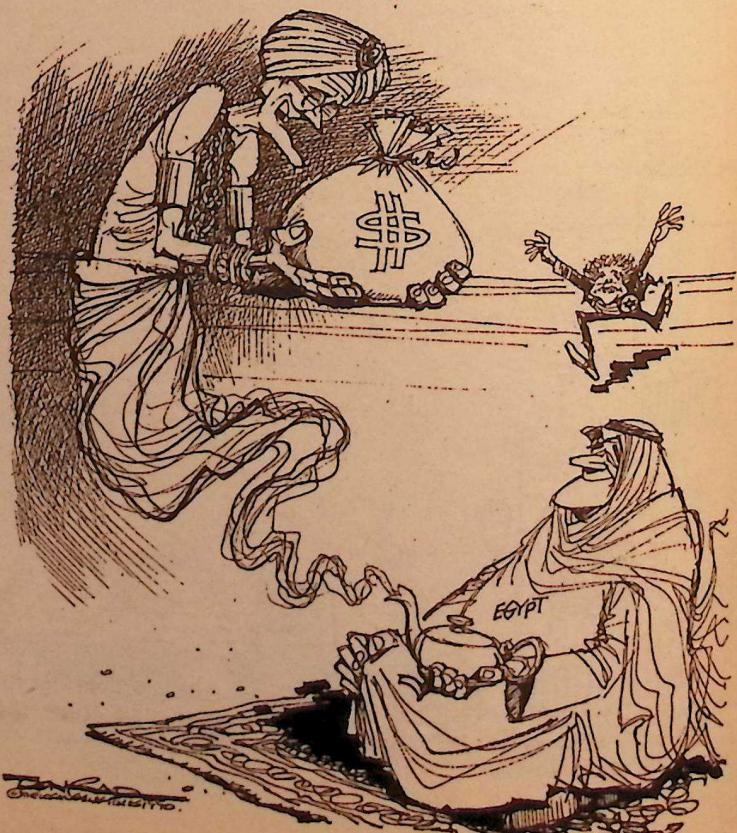
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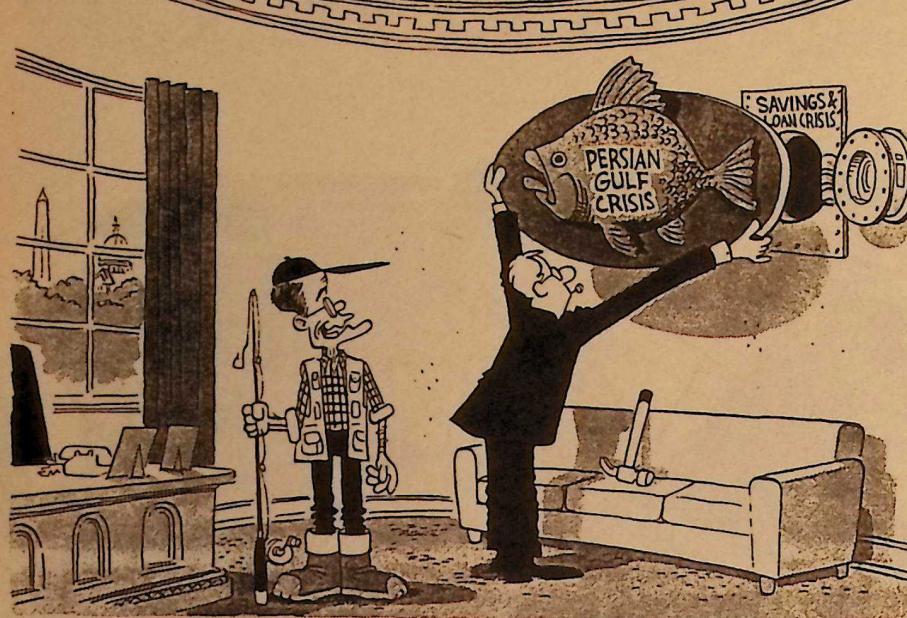


OPERATION
BUDGET SHIELD

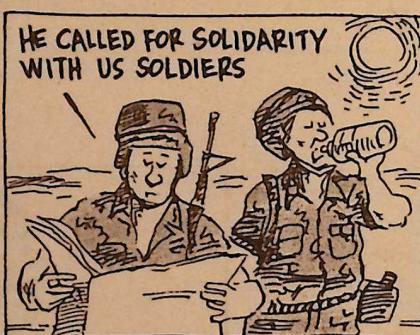


Palm Beach Post © 2000

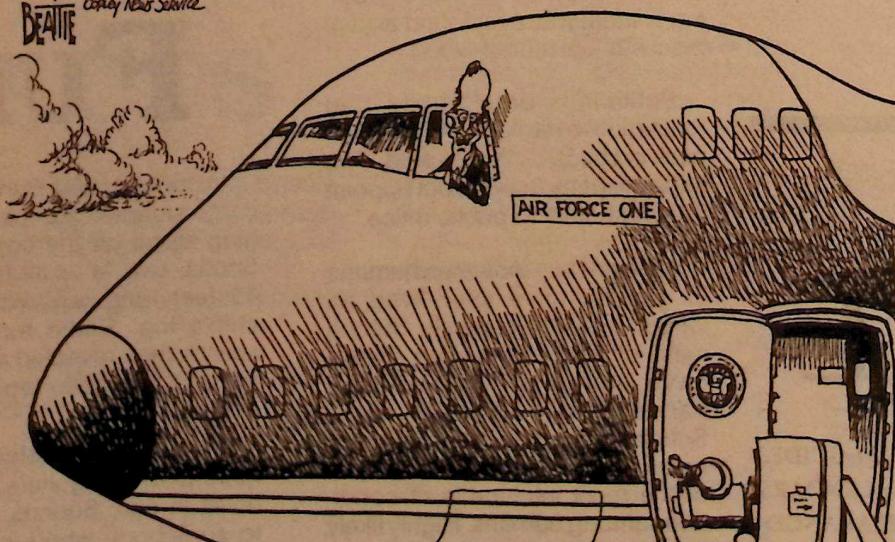




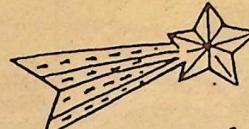
"THAT'S GOOD... HANG IT RIGHT THERE!"



©90 Daytona Beach Sunday News-Journal
Copycat News Service
BEATTIE



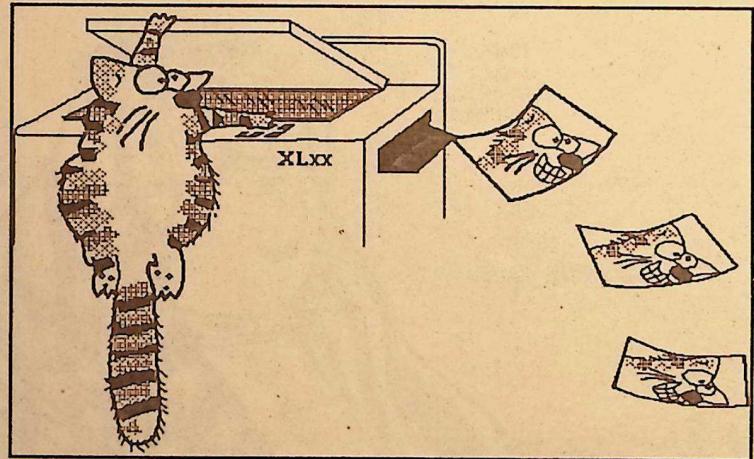
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 fine instruments
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Fretted Instrument Workshop
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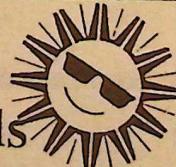
228 Triangle St./Amherst

(413) 549-3840

32 Pleasant St./Northampton

(413) 586-1332





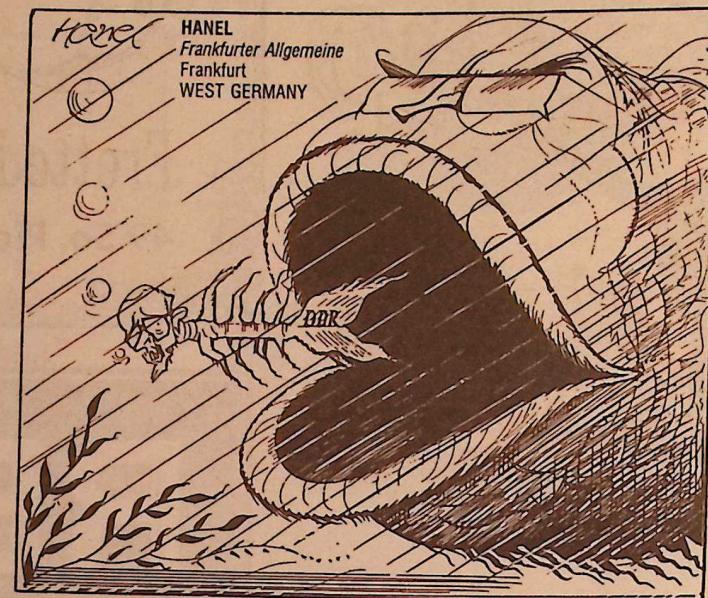
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53 Main St. Florence, MA. 01060
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(minimum delivery \$5)
584 - 9946

| GRINDERS | PIZZAS | | |
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| ham & cheese | 3 | \$9.40 | \$12.95 |
| cold cut | 4 | \$10.55 | \$14.35 |

Views of the W

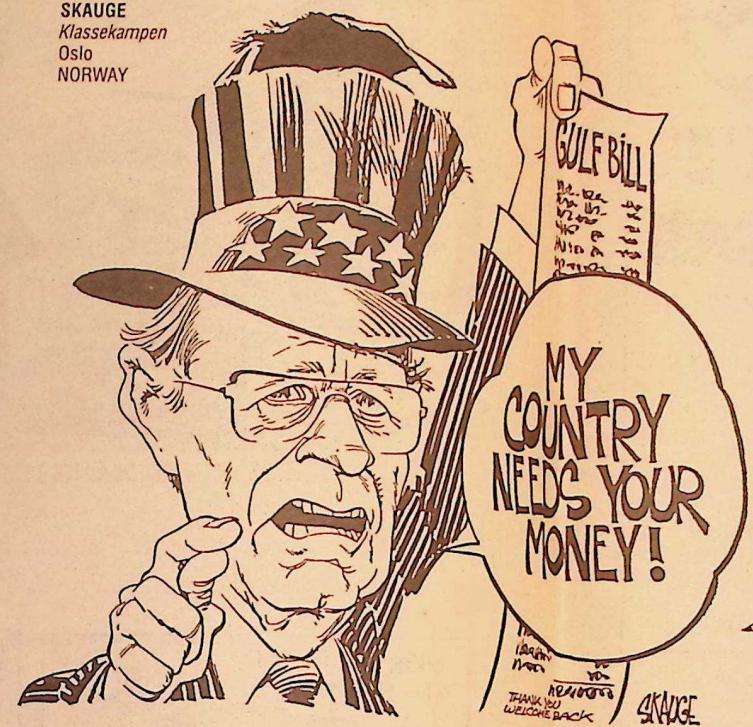


ZLATOVSKY
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HANEL
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THE
GULF
BILL

MY
COUNTRY
NEEDS
YOUR
MONEY!

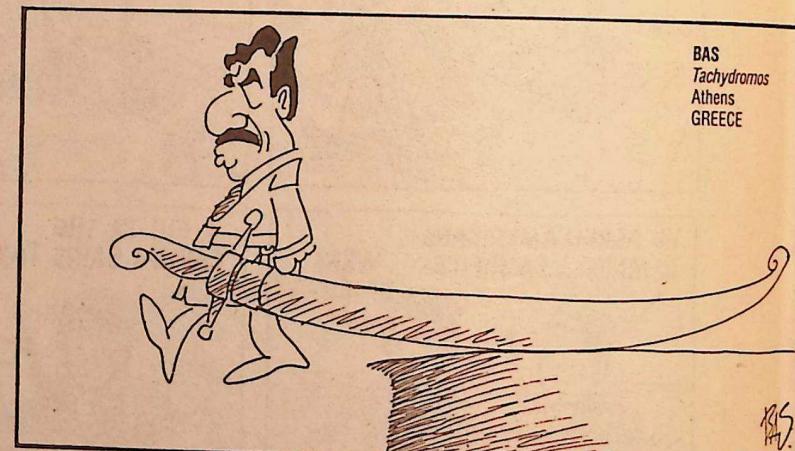
THANK YOU
WELCOME BACK

SKAUGE



KING FAHD

TOM
Trouw
Amsterdam
NETHERLANDS



BAS
Tachydromos
Athens
GREECE

Oceanographers in 1962 sailed their observatory ship to a point south of Japan, there better to view the predicted eruption of Myojin, an undersea volcano that had been vibrating ominously. It blew. Exactly below them. Nothing of them was ever found except pieces of splintered wood.

Politicians didn't build that reputation overnight. All the way back in 600 B.C., Aesop said, "We hang the petty thieves, but appoint the great ones to public office."

No evidence indicates humans in general have ever lived as loners. Individuals, surely. But the mass of men and women always have paired off in perennial partnerships akin to marriage. Scholars say this pattern of centuries suggests aloneness is one of the most intolerable of conditions among humans. Highly likely you knew that.

In conversations, women stand closer to women than men to men.

Soldiers told not to a
of their hos
Traditional
obligated to
sions to th
Fahd: Mig
you've got

FUN FACT

In June of 1956, crewmen of the cargo steamer "Rhapsody," chugging along off the coast of Nova Scotia, saw "a white turtle" about 45 feet long, according to that ship's log. Some turtle. But research then revealed an even bigger one had been reported thereabouts in 1883.

A sports statistician insists more than 100 golfers daily make holes in one. Sounds pretty high to somebody who's never made one.

Pandas perceive color. And they hate red. If it's red and small, they'll attack it. If it's red and large, they'll run from it.

Q. Where
speechwrit
about "a t
light"?

A. From th
Wolfe.

Q. Do ha
anything in c

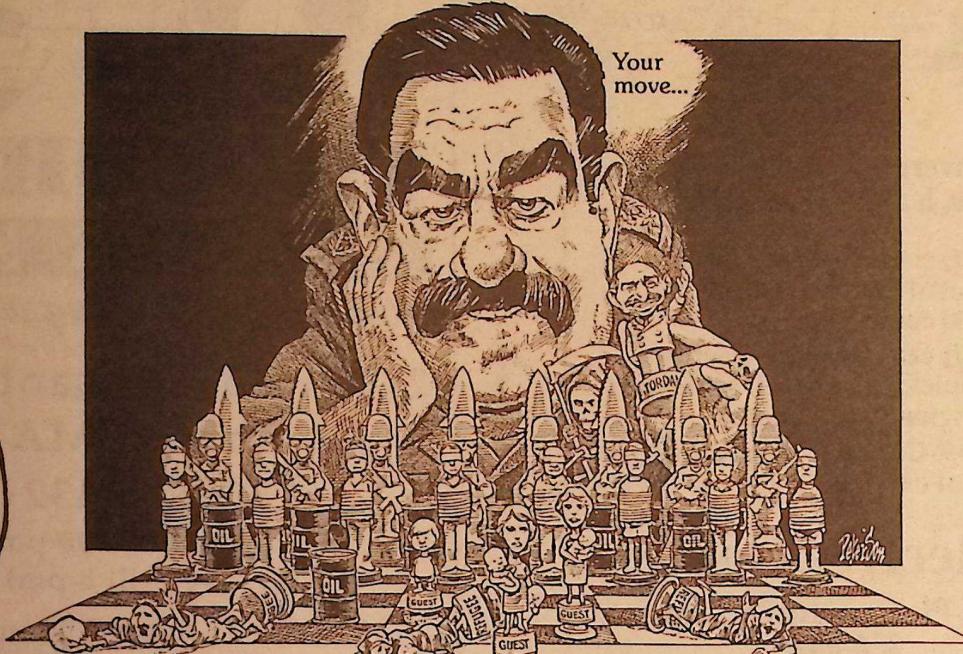
A. Four m
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"cooperativ
"cautious"
stable."

One pers
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Two in seven
in seven, fing

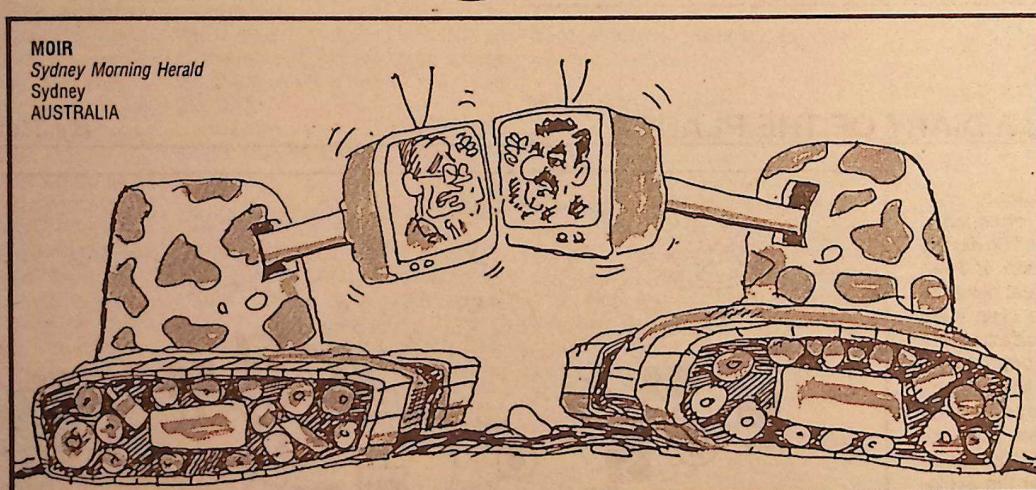
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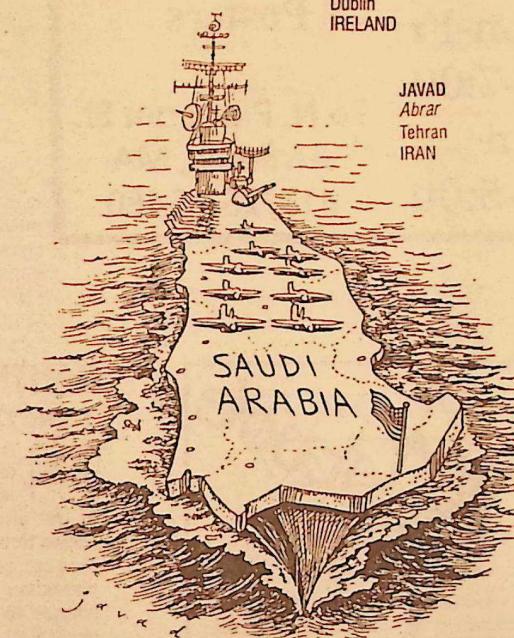
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Soldiers in Saudi Arabia are told not to admire the possessions of their hosts. At least, not out loud. Traditional Arabs, it's said, feel obligated to give admired possessions to the admirers. Memo to Fahd: Mighty pretty Mercedes, you've got there, King.

Mozart's father, Leopold, directed Court musicians in Salzburg. They brought their cellos and violins and flutes to Leopold's house. To practice and perform there. Almost daily from the beginning, even in the womb, it's presumed, Mozart heard exquisite music.

Q. If Abraham Lincoln so disliked the nickname "Abe," what did his wife Mary call him?

A. Either "Mr. Lincoln" or "Father."

Yogi Berra also said, "Baseball is 90 percent physical and the other half is mental."

Which is more addictive — drinking or smoking? It's now known 15 percent of the liquor sippers become dependent on alcohol while 90 percent of the cigarette smokers become dependent on nicotine.

When your dad was a lad, or maybe your granddad, that war zone called Lebanon was considered one of the world's safest and most beautiful places to live. It was known once as "The Land of Milk and Honey." Everything changes but king crabs and cockroaches, I guess. They've been the same for 200 million years.

Witness reports a little girl tipped her trike in mud, and came up gunky. Her dad said, "You're pretty dirty, aren't you?" She said, "Guess so, but I'm prettier clean."

FACTS

Q. Where did George Bush's speechwriter get that phrase about "a thousand points of light"?

A. From the prose poet Thomas Wolfe.

Q. Do happy husbands have anything in common?

A. Four mentionables, if the researchers have it right. They're "cooperative," "conservative," "cautious" and "emotionally stable."

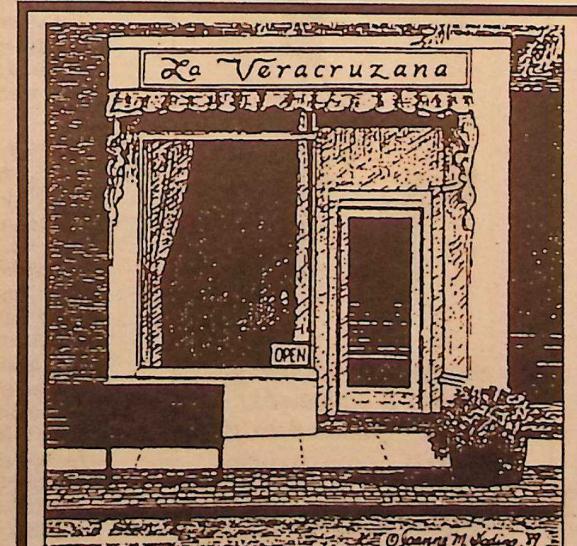
One person in seven worldwide eats with a knife, fork and spoon. Two in seven use chopsticks. Four in seven, fingers only.

Families in Java, Hungary and elsewhere traditionally plant a tree whenever one of their own has a baby. A quaint and gentle practice, this, in bygone years. Long before "greenhouse effect" became a catch phrase. But if such a custom were internationalized now, would it not be oh so much more significant?

Almost all chimpanzees in the wild fall out of trees and break bones. Examinations of chimp skeletons prove that.

Writes a client: "Once as an office boy, I got ahold of a rubber stamp imprinted: 'These prices are negotiable.' I stamped it inside restaurant menus all over town."

No animal can make a louder noise than the lion, it's said.



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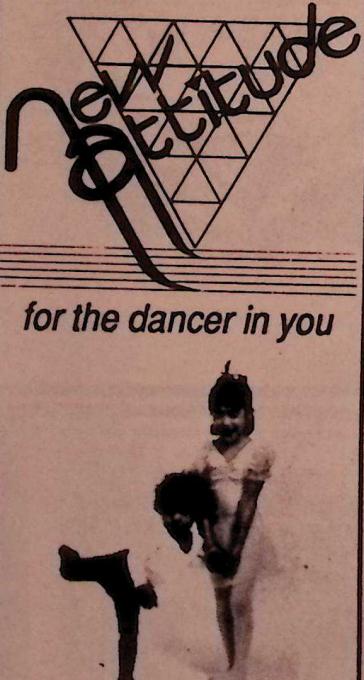
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By Steve Newman

EARTHWEEK: A DIARY OF THE PLANET

Toxic Cloud

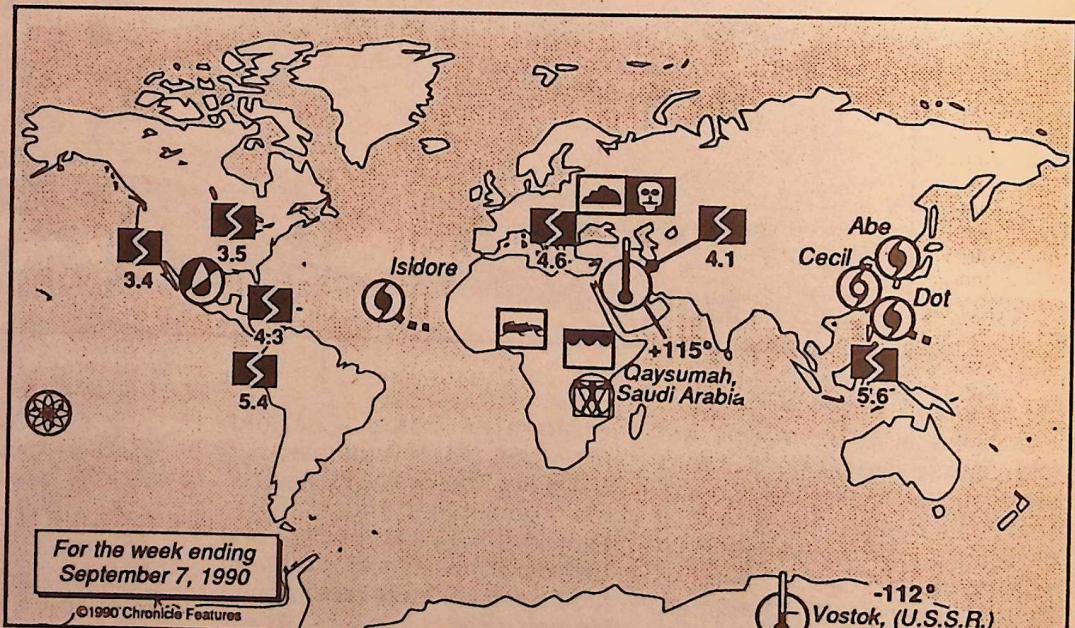
A poisonous cloud, containing toxic chemicals, hovered over the Soviet city of Ufa after an explosion and fire ripped through a chemical plant. All medical centers in the area were placed on alert, and residents were warned to remain indoors until the cloud had passed. A stream of chemicals from the facility also poured into the nearby Olimka river that provides more than half of Ufa's drinking water. The day after the explosion, levels of phenol, a potentially lethal chemical that paralyzes the central nervous system, were discovered to be 37 times higher in the river than the acceptable limit.

Black Death

A health alert was declared in the Kenyan capital of Nairobi following an outbreak of bubonic plague which killed three people from a low-income neighborhood, and sickened 23 others. The three victims worked at a flour mill that has been closed temporarily as a precaution against the further spread of the disease. Also known as the Black Death, bubonic plague killed millions when it swept across Europe and parts of Asia in the 14th century. It is transmitted by flies from infected rats, and is treatable with antibiotics.

Tropical Storms

High winds and flooding from typhoon Abe killed 108 people as it swept across Taiwan and the Chinese mainland. The storm later brought gales and heavy rains to the Korean peninsula. Tropical storm Cecil formed suddenly before moving ashore close to where typhoon Abe had brought its worst fury only six days earlier. Typhoon storm Dot was taking aim on Taiwan late in the week. Hurricane Isidore moved harmlessly across the open waters of the central Atlantic Ocean.



Floods

More than 350,000 people were left without shelter in western Ethiopia after storms and flooding swept away their primitive homes near the Sudanese border. This is the third consecutive year that the Gambela region along the Baro River has been hit by such a disaster. In contrast, northern Ethiopia remains in the grip of an extended drought that has brought on a new round of famine.

Earthquakes

Further aftershocks of the disastrous June 21 Iranian earthquake rocked the region. Residents of southeastern Cuba, including the U.S. Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay, were shaken awake by a strong tremor before dawn on Sept. 5. Earth movements were also felt in the southern Philippines, central Ecuador, western Yugoslavia, Southern California and Tennessee.

Pests

Millions of invading grasshoppers and army worms have destroyed staple crops in northern Nigeria's Katsina state. Aerial and ground spraying of pesticides has started in an effort to eradicate the pests.

Drought

A second year of drought is rapidly depleting reservoirs and aquifers in the northern Mexican state of Nuevo Leon. Homes in the state capital of Monterrey now only get eight hours of running water a day.

Leaks

An article published in the British journal New Scientists challenges repeated claims by the French Government that debris from its nuclear tests at Mururoa Atoll do not leak into the ocean. According to the report, tests conducted by the oceanographer

Jacques Cousteau in 1987 found the atoll's lagoon to be contaminated with cesium 134 and cesium 137.

Poltergeist

Tass reported a sober tale of terrifying telekinesis in the Volga region village of Madayovo. For seven hours, objects like keys, candles and food swirled through the air inside a house, striking family members and others who came to witness the phenomenon. "Revolted onlookers waved away the unseen ghost that visited the house," said Tass. "Ten men were on duty in the house during these long and tense hours, ready to take some measures in case the stove surged aloft." Militia Lieutenant Sbitnev, who said he witnessed the haunting, reported the details to Soviet Interior Ministry officials in Gorky.

Additional Sources: U. S. Climate Analysis Center, U. S. National Hurricane Center at Miami, U. S. Military Typhoon Warning Center at Guam, U. S. Earthquake Information Center and the World Meteorological Organization.

Record Rains

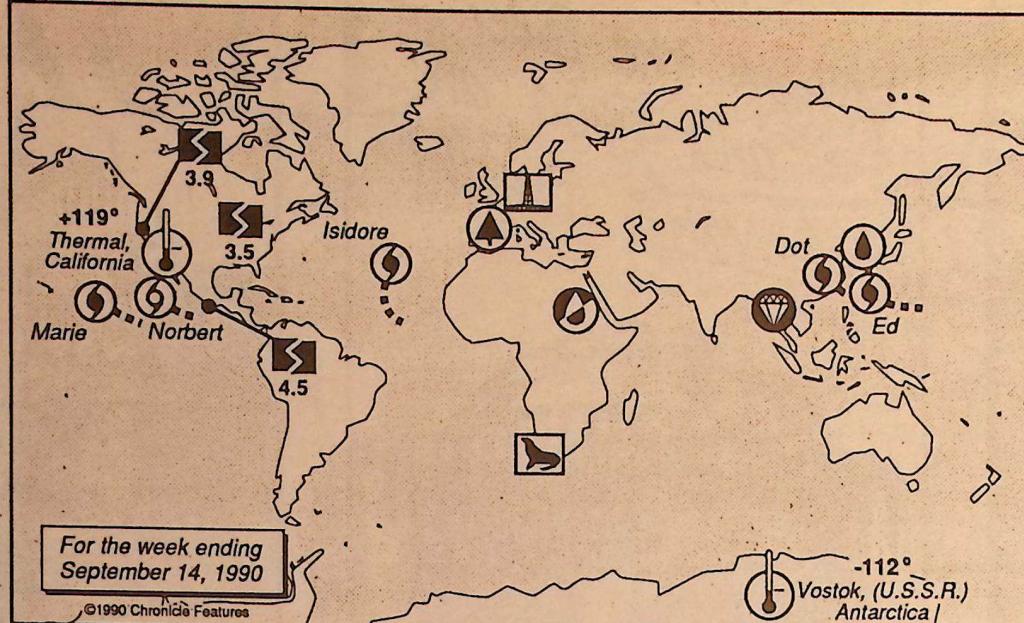
The heaviest 24-hour rainfall to strike the Korean peninsula in 70 years unleashed waves of flooding that killed at least 84 people and left 52 missing. The figures did not reflect casualties from an area west of Seoul where a 110-yard section of the Han River embankment collapsed before dawn on Sept. 12. More than 80 villages disappeared under the resulting surge of water. Korean Television reported that a Buddhist temple was buried in a mudslide with five monks inside. South Korean President Roh Tae Woo called it "the worst weather disaster in memory."

Drought Refugees

Shortages of food and rain in central Sudan have driven an estimated 10,000 people to Khartoum, the capital. Most of the refugees came from northern Kordofan, an area affected by a similar catastrophe in 1984-85. The government announced it was transporting 111,000 tons of sorghum to northern Kordofan to avert another influx of people to the capital, but denied that the country was threatened by famine.

Deeper

The second phase of a project to drill the world's deepest hole got underway near Windischeschenbach, West Germany. The \$330 million program is financed by a number of countries, including the U.S., France, West Germany and Czechoslovakia. More than 200 geologists will study samples as the drilling bores to a depth of 33,000 feet during the next three years. The first phase brought the drill to a point 13,000 feet beneath Europe where the continental plates of Africa, Asia and America joined more than 300 million years ago. One goal of the project is to explore the potential of underground thermal energy.

**Tropical Storms**

Strong winds and flooding from Typhoon Dot left 23 people dead along a path of destruction across the northern Philippines, Taiwan and China's Fujian province. The storm was the fourth to hit the region within three weeks, and tropical storm Ed was taking a similar path late in the week.

Residents of Hawaii were keeping a cautious eye on hurricane Marie, moving toward them across the Pacific with winds of 100 miles per hour.

Hurricane Isidore and tropical storm Norbert moved across open waters.

Giant Gem

Burma's Radio Rangoon reported the discovery of the world's largest sapphire, 979 carats, at a mine near Mong Kyawt. Until the discovery, the 563-carat "Star of India" had been the largest sapphire ever mined.

Earthquakes

A moderate quake rattled the Mexican resort of Acapulco, scaring tourists and panicking a group of schoolchildren, but no damage or injuries were caused by the shaking. Several tremors were felt near where the devastating Loma Prieta earthquake rocked the San Francisco Bay Area on October 17 last year. A weak earth movement was felt in northeastern Kentucky.

Seal Slaughter

The South African government denied claims made by the country's Seal Action Group that 17,000 seals recently had been culled off the Skeleton Coast in Namibia. Sea Fisheries director Jan Jurgens said that only 256 seals had been killed during the five days ending Sept. 11, but said that a quota of 19,400 seals had been granted for commercial harvesting this year. In July, a storm of

protest in South Africa, backed by French actress Brigitte Bardot, resulted in the suspension of the seal culls off the Cape of Good Hope.

Tree Talk

Some plant species can communicate with one another, and even warn of attackers, a South African zoologist claimed at the International Colloquium on the Tree in Montpellier, France. Wouter van Hoven said he discovered that an acacia tree releases ethylene to warn other plants that it is being munched on. "This message can be carried for 50 yards," van Hoven said. "In less than 15 minutes, a neighboring tree will increase the concentration of tannin in its leaves, which thereby makes it poisonous."

Additional Sources: U.S. National Hurricane Center at Miami, U.S. Military Joint Typhoon Warning Center at Guam, U.S. Climate Analysis Center, U.S. Earthquake Information Center and the World Meteorological Organization.

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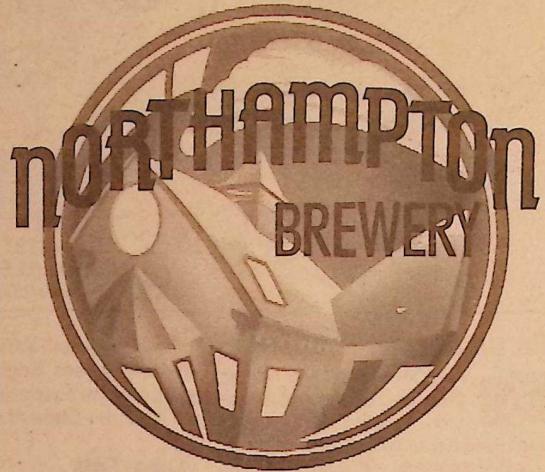
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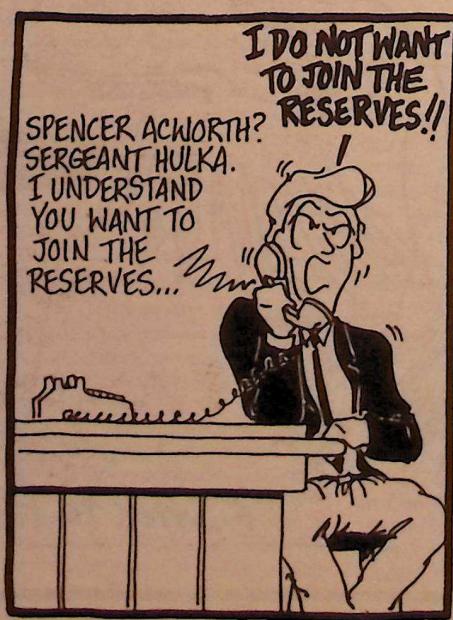
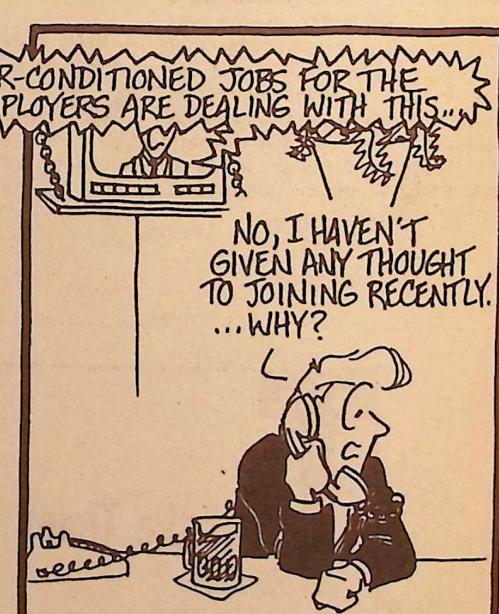
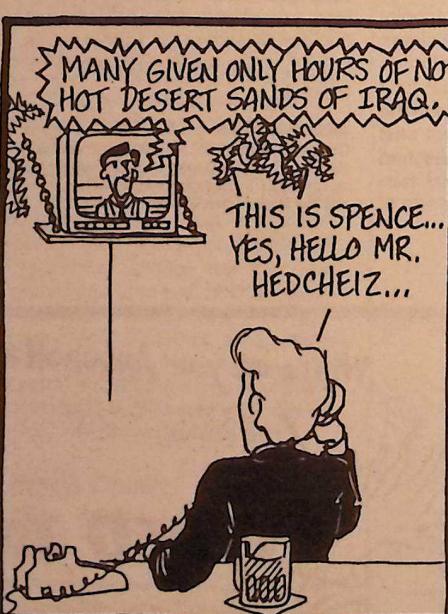


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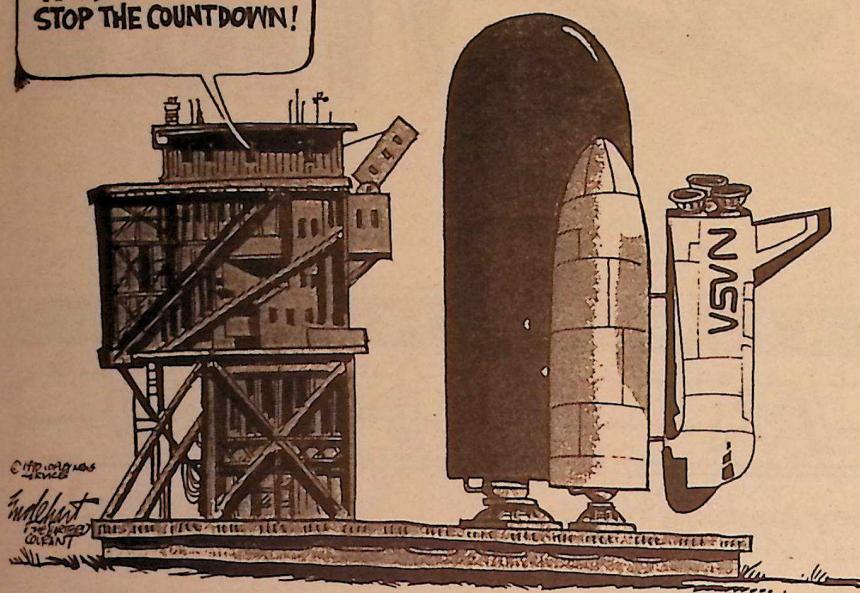
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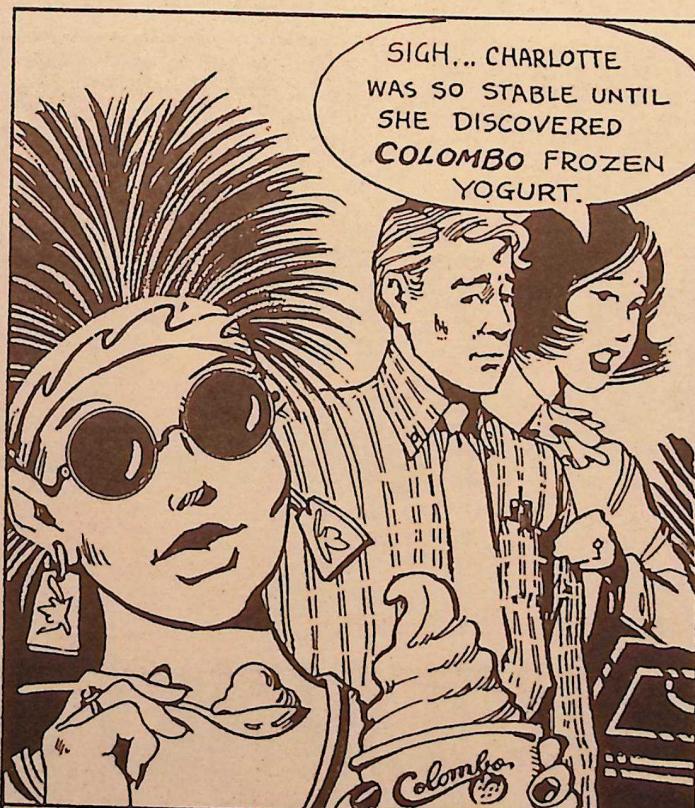
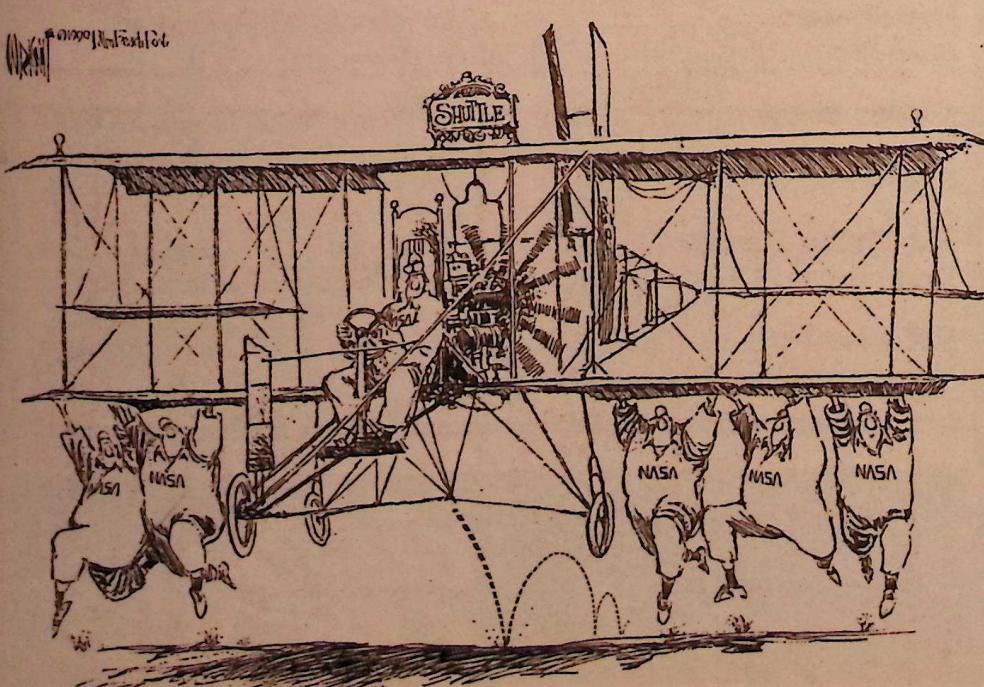
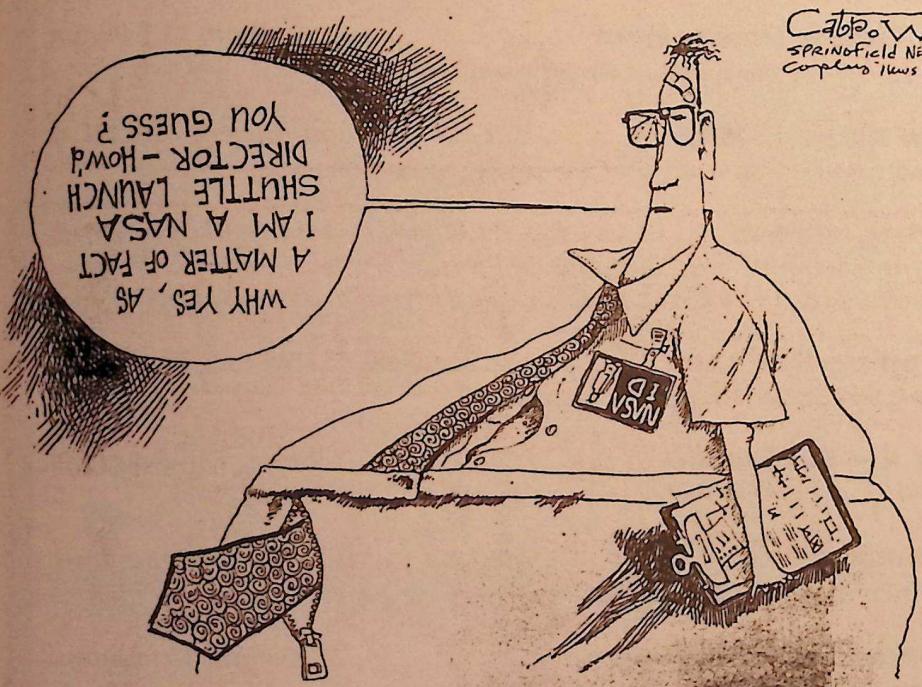
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OH NOOO! IT'S EITHER
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WHY YES, AS

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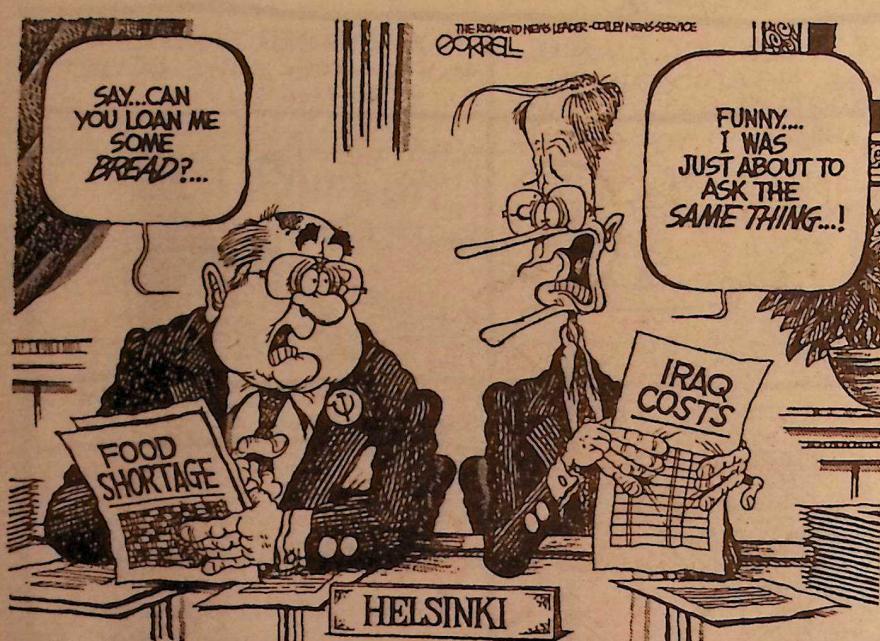
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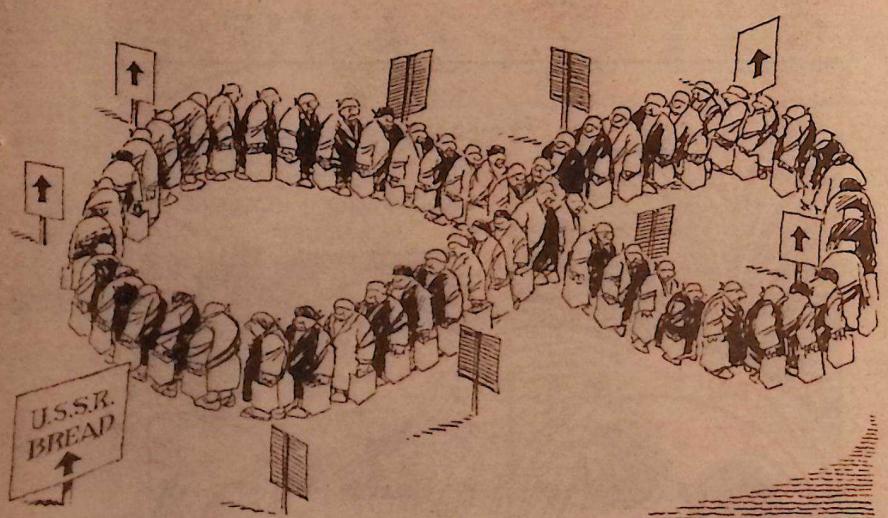
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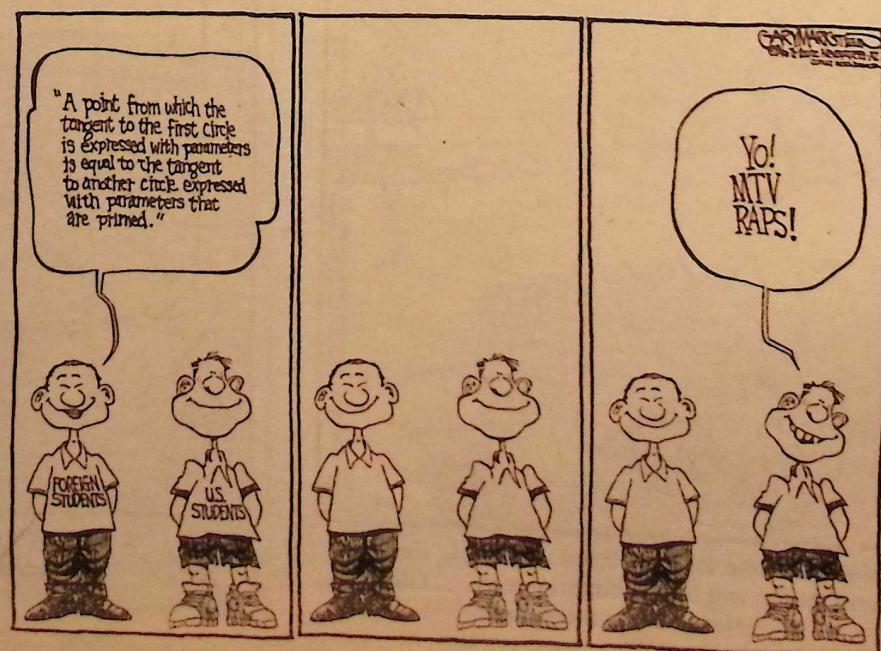
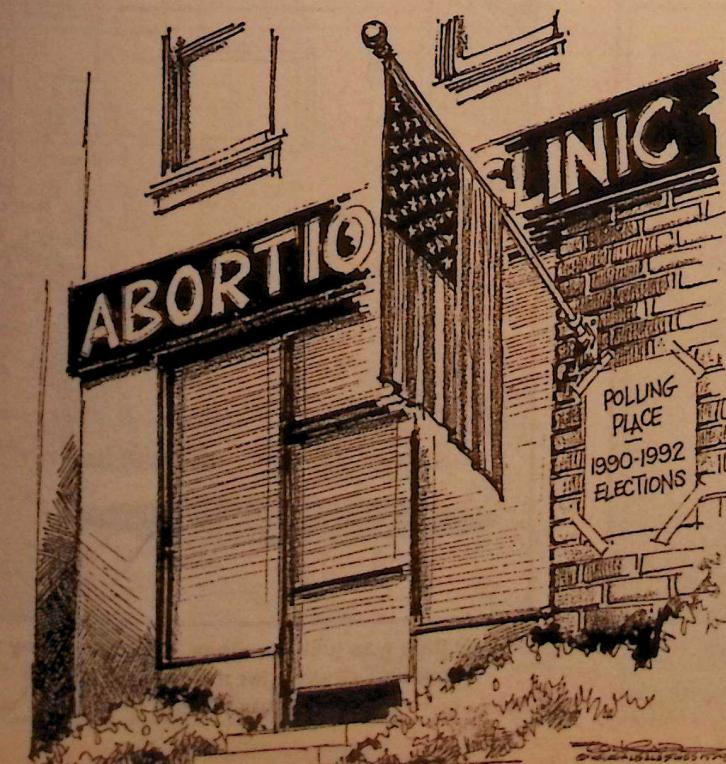
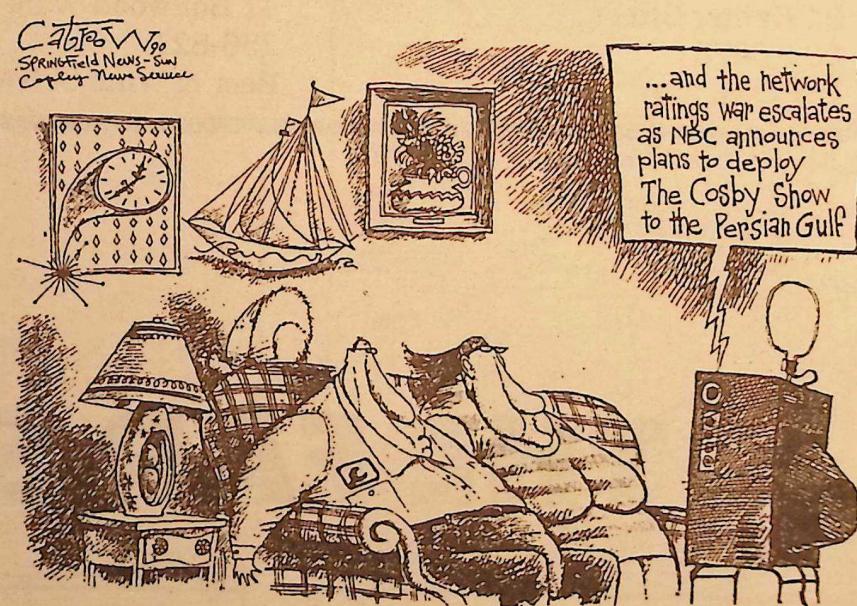
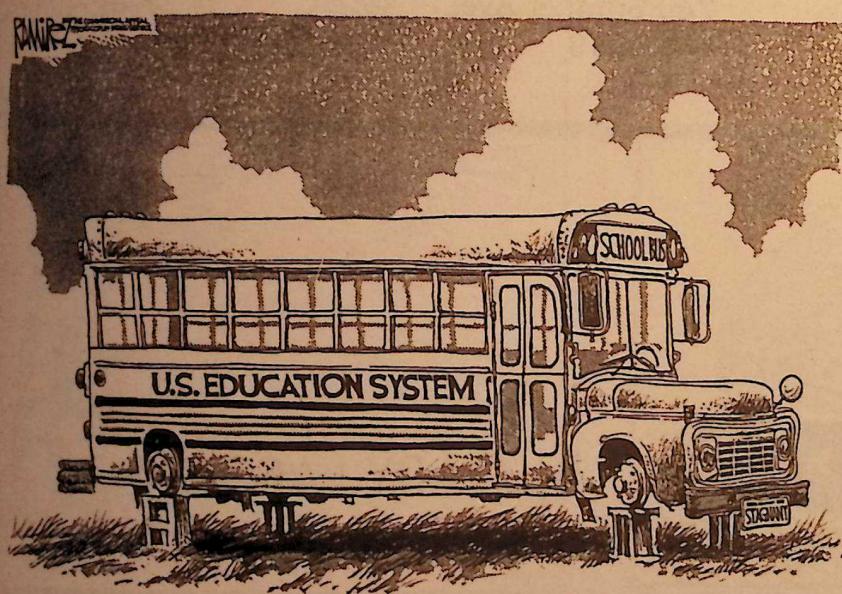
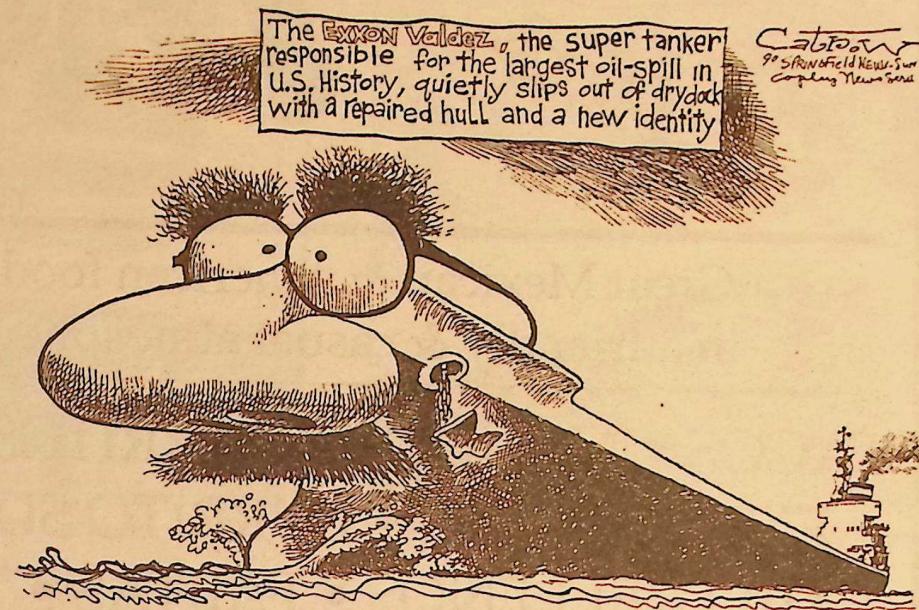
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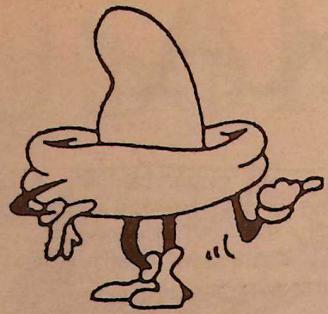
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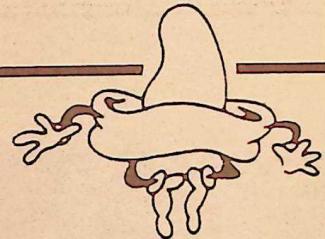
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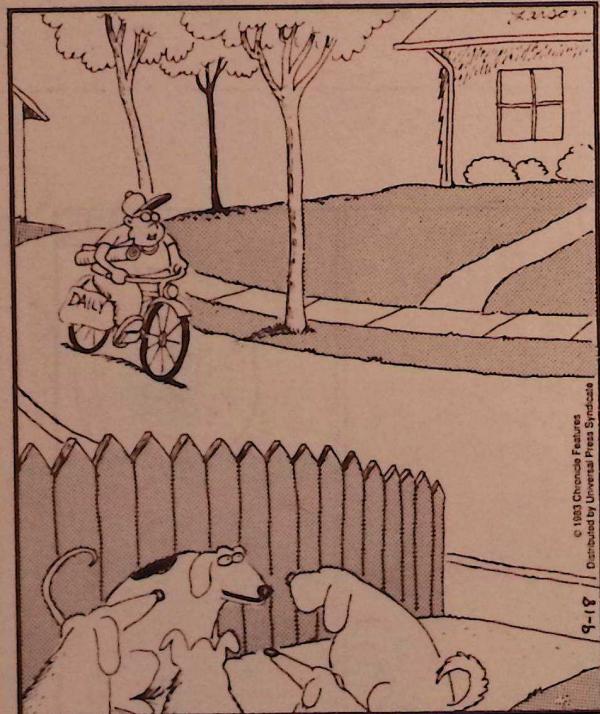
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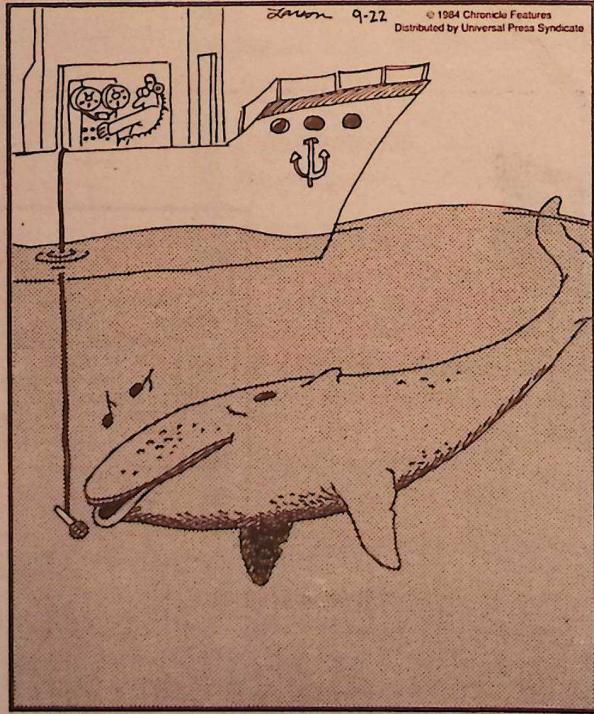


THE FAR SIDE

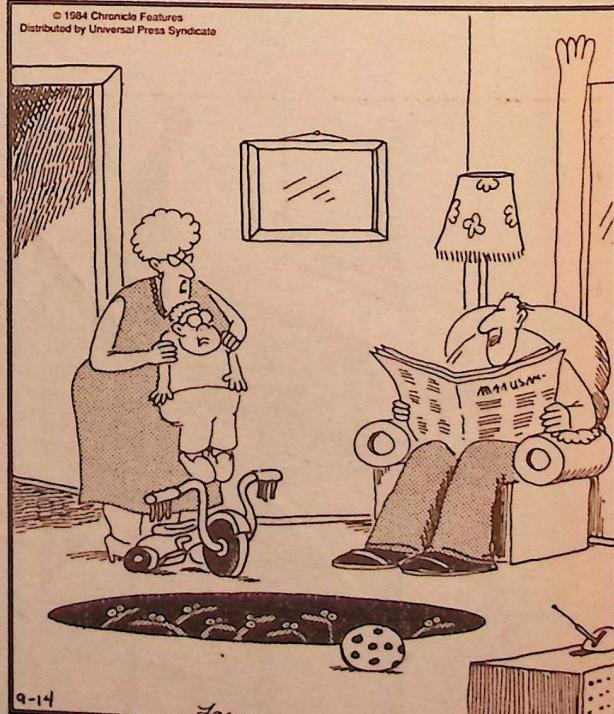
By GARY LARSON



"OK, this time Rex and Zeke will be the wolves,
Fifi and Muffin will be the coyotes, and . . . Listen! . . .
Here comes the deer!"



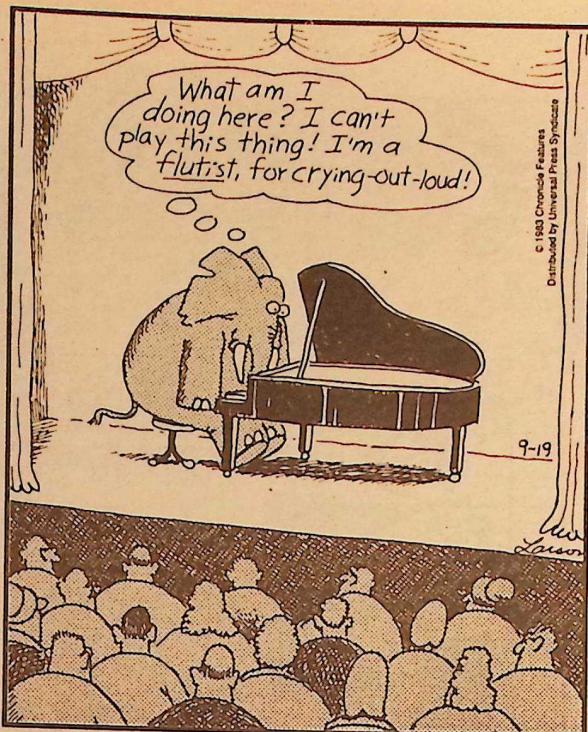
"A Louie, Louie . . . wowoo . . . we
gotta go now . . ."



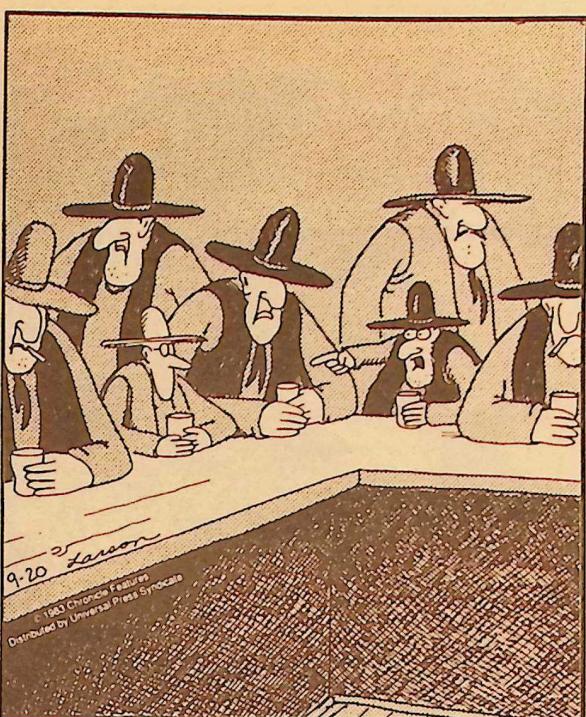
"That time was just too close, George! Jimmy was
headed straight for the snake pit when
I grabbed him!"



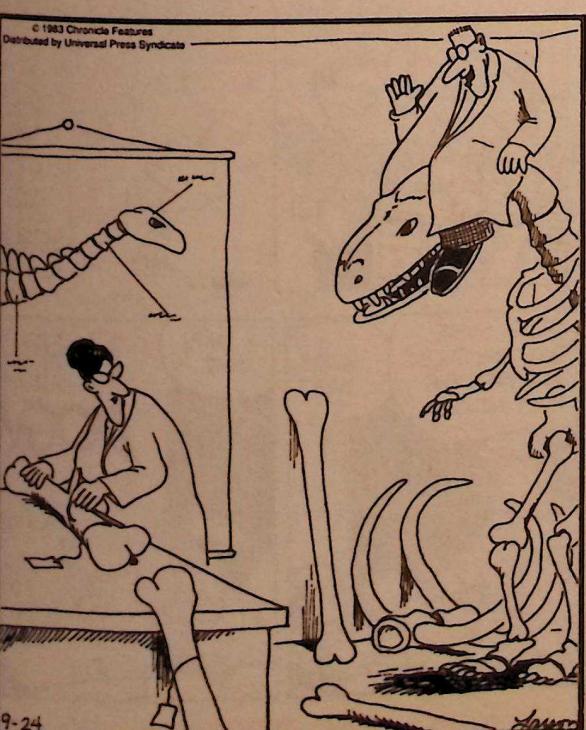
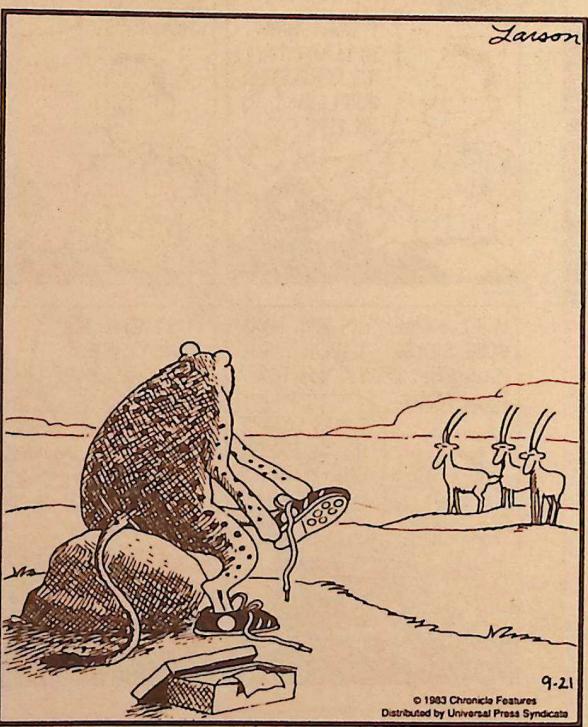
Early vegetarians returning from the kill.



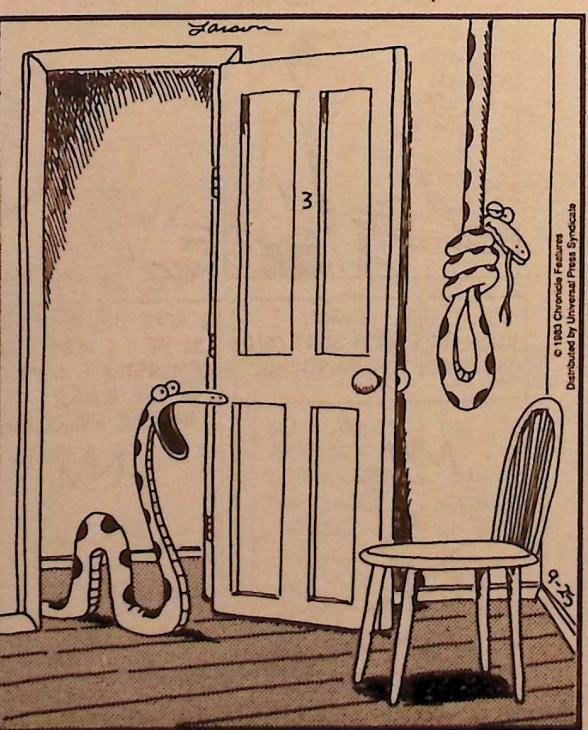
The elephant's nightmare



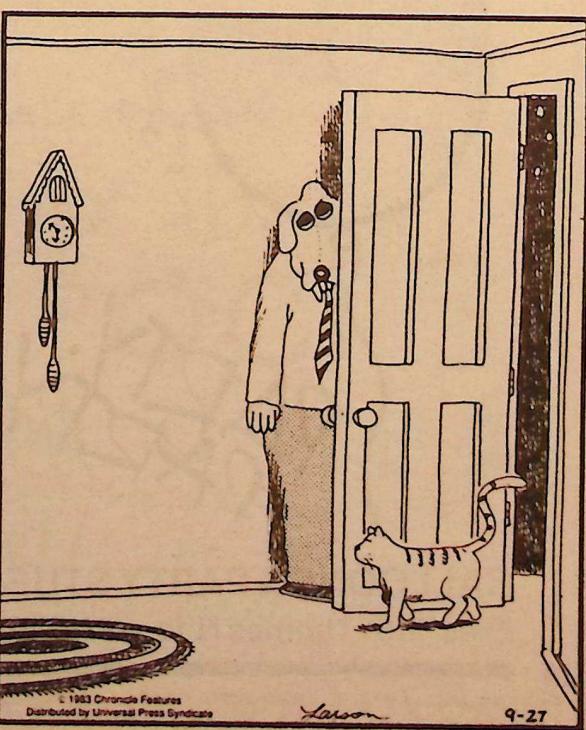
"Hey! You! . . . Yeah, that's right! I'm talkin' to you!"



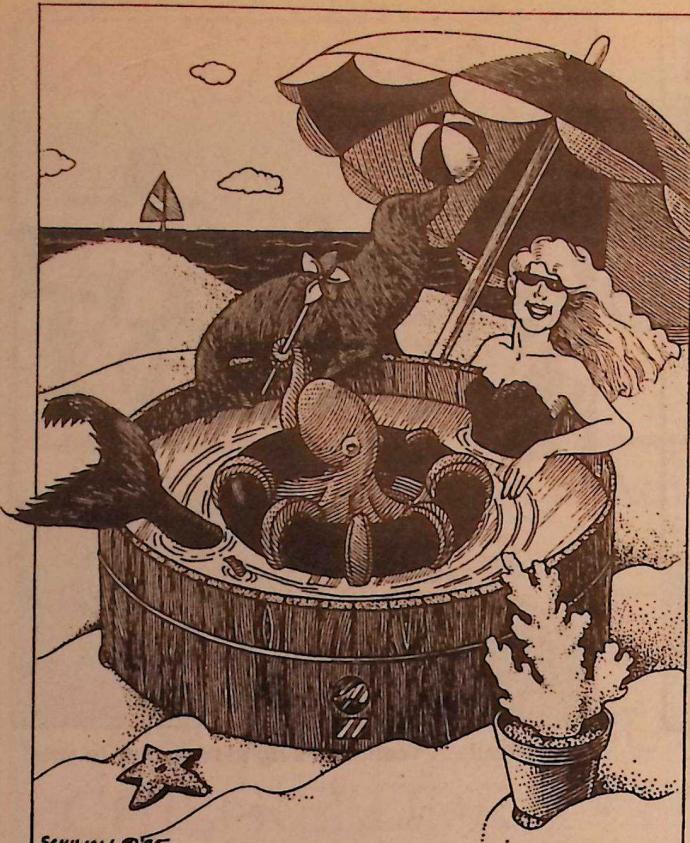
"Hi . . . Hi, Miss Collins."



"Oh no, Elliott! Why? . . . Why? . . ."



Games you can play with your cat.



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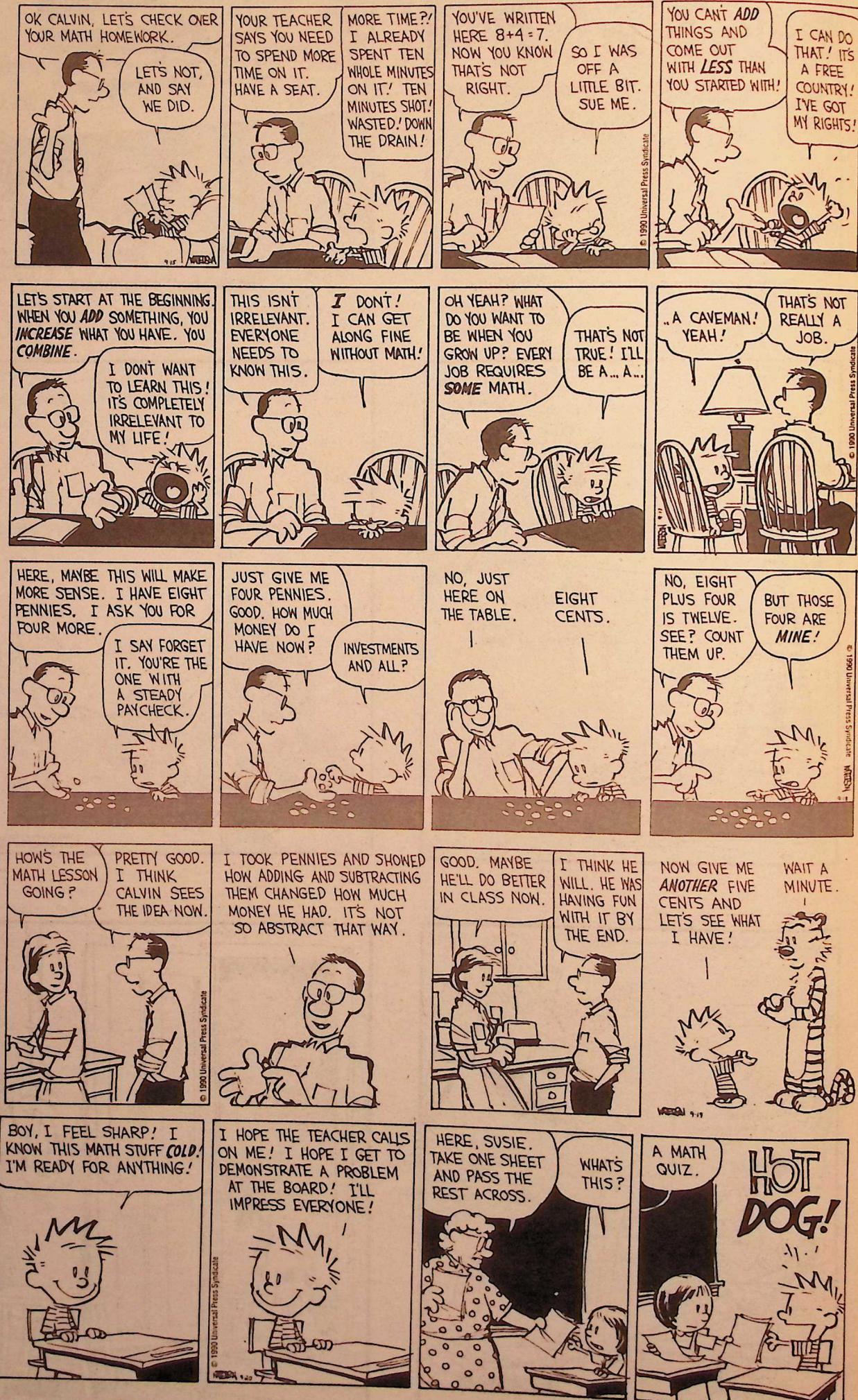
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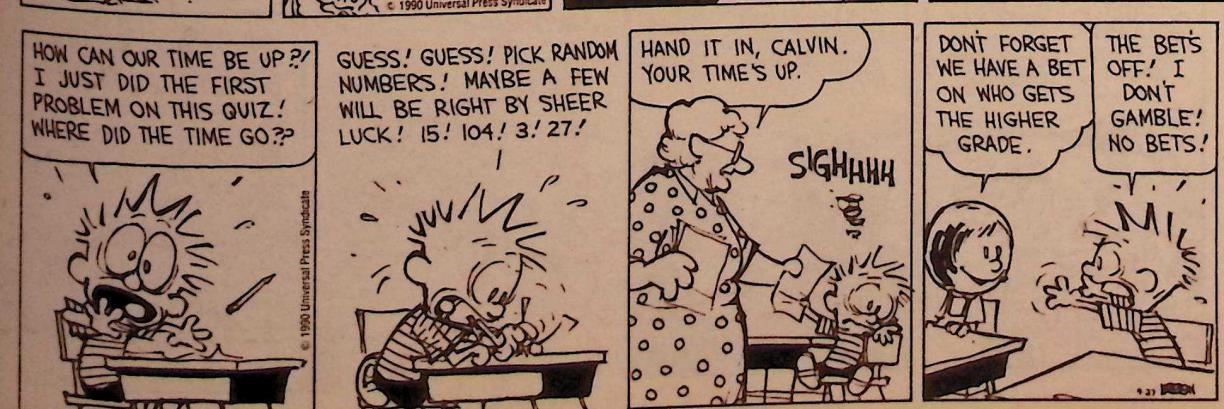
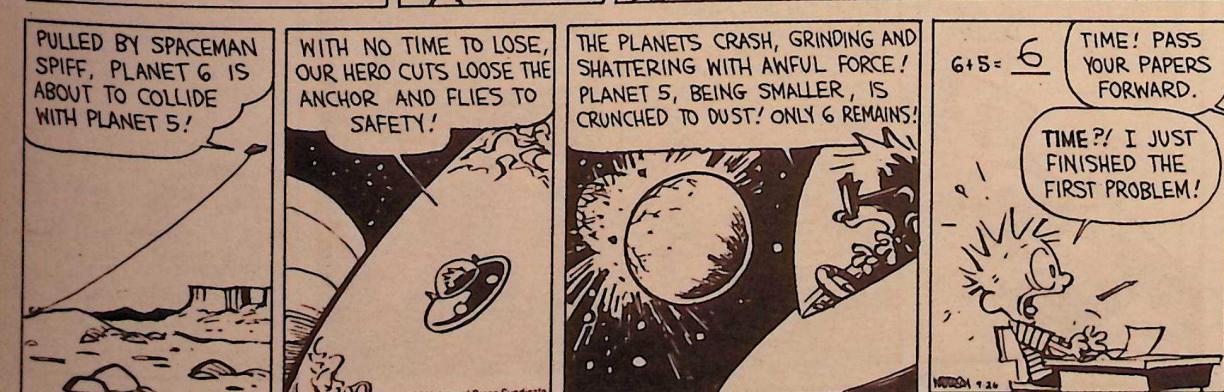
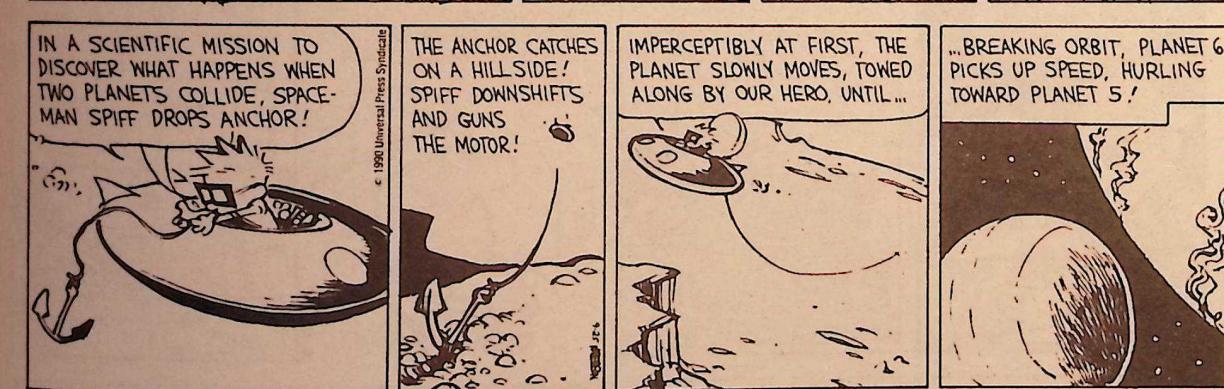
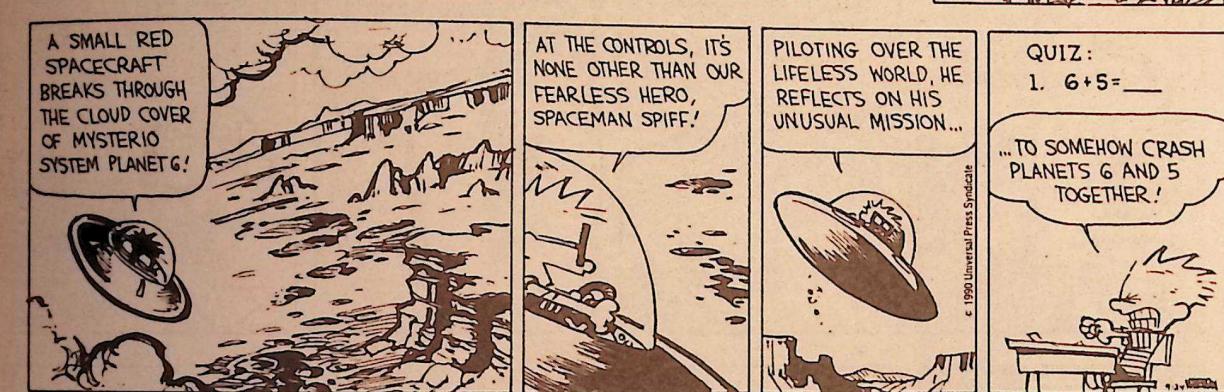
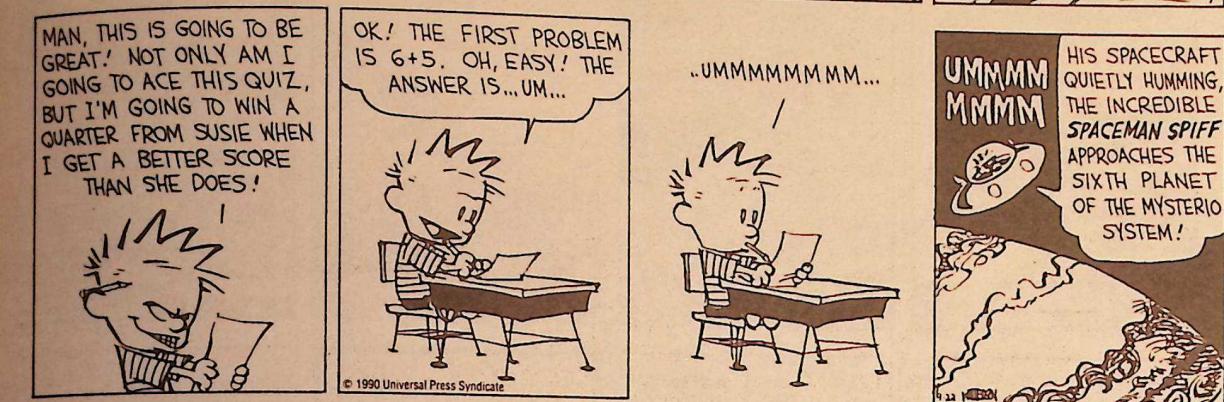
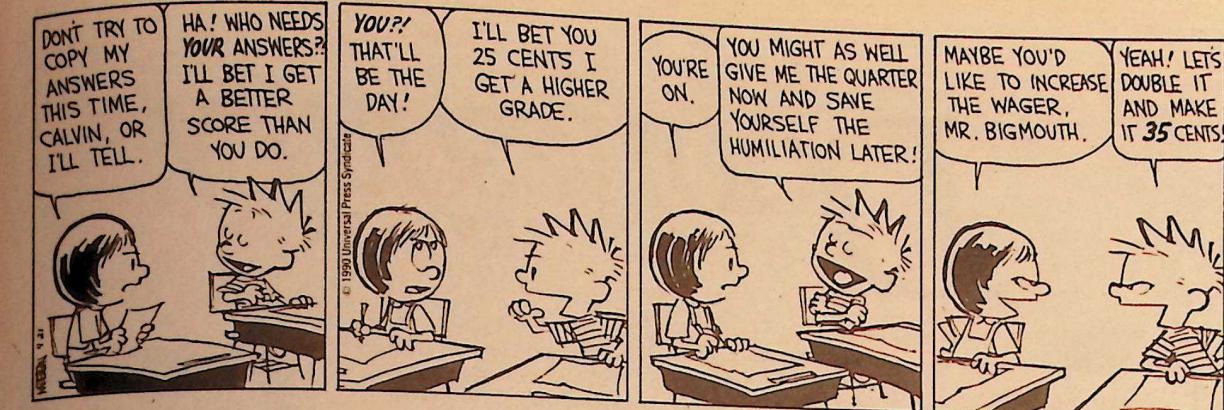


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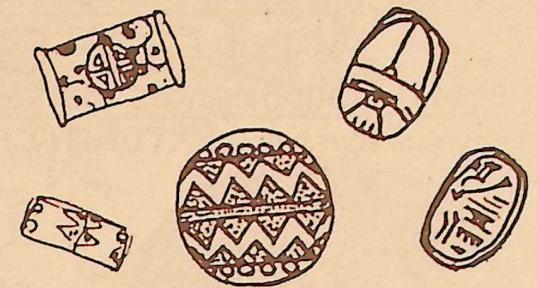
calvin and Hobbes

by BILL WATTERSON



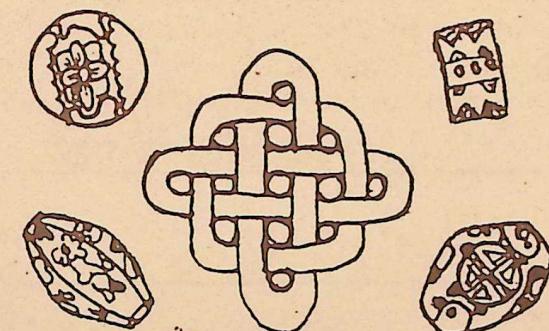


KARAUVAN IMPORTS



BEADS!
BEADS!

BEADS!



20% OFF

with this ad
ONLY!

SALE ITEMS NOT INCLUDED

thru
OCT 31

585-0815

mon. - wed. 10 - 6

thurs. fri. 10 - 9 sat. 10 - 7

sun. 12 - 5

located above Pinocchio's
122 main st.
northampton, MA 01060

CHANGES
Second Floor Thornes Market
Don't cut your hair....EXTEND IT !!

"Hair Extending" is the latest technique in hair design, and is now being offered to you exclusively by Frankie and Lisa of Changes. Call 586-2600 for details.

G Grape Street Records
and Tapes
& CD's

Huge Selection
Cheapest Prices
(From \$6.97)
Call 253-5118

TICKETMASTER

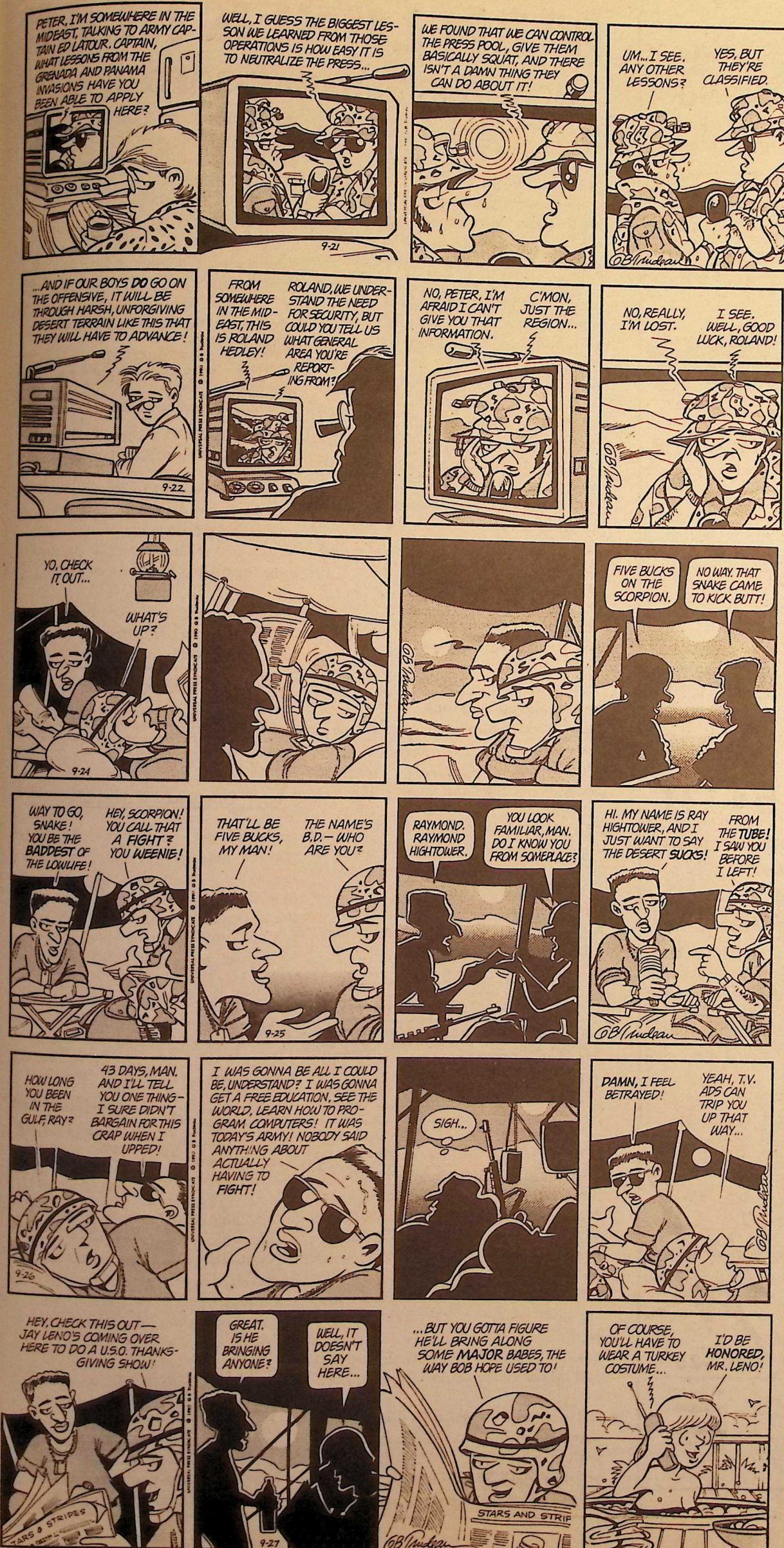
- Worcester Centrum
- Great Woods
- Boston Clubs

1 BOLTWOOD WALK
(Behind Whalen Stationers)

Doonesbury

BY G.B. TRUDEAU



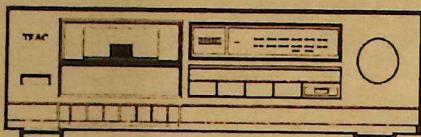


BACK TO SCHOOL BONANZA

adirondack music beats the high cost of education with super low prices!

TEAC V250

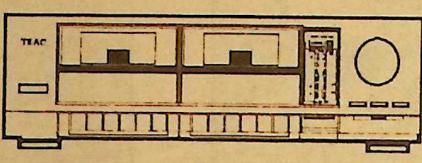
SINGLE CASSETTE DECK
WITH DOLBY NR



only \$89.95

TEAC W350

DUAL CASSETTE DECK
DOLBY NR - HI SPEED DUBBING



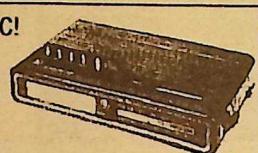
only \$119.95

TDK SA-100

Chromium Bias - 100 minute cassettes

only \$1.99

WAKE UP TO MUSIC!



only \$14.95

Jamo SL-100

3 WAY SPEAKERS

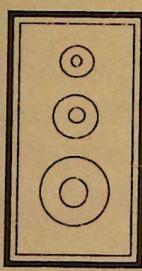
European
excellence

SAVE 50%

list \$280/pr

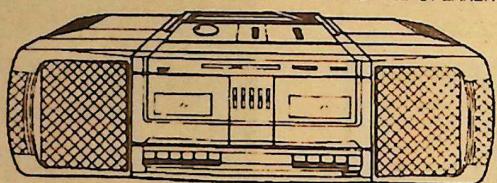
now only

\$139/pr



JVC DUAL DUBBING BLASTER

AM/FM SHORTWAVE - DUAL CASSETTES - 5 BAND EQ
CD JACK - SUPER BASS HORN - REMOVEABLE SPEAKERS



only \$149.95

AIWA SUPER BASS WALKMANS

HS-T100 only \$49.95

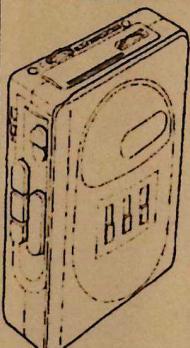
AM/FM Cassette - FF & RW

HS-T220 only \$69.95

AM/FM - Auto-Rev Cassette - EQ

HS-T50 only \$89.95

Digital AM/FM - Auto-Rev - EQ



MONSTER CABLE

75¢/ft

Autosound - Hyperflex
Superflex - 12/2
other speaker wire starting at 15¢/ft

SONY SRS-55

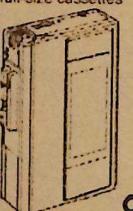
Amplified
Speakers

for your portable
CD player
or walkman
only \$99.95/pr



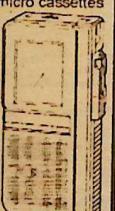
Panasonic Personal Recorders

RQ-L305
full-size cassettes



ideal for
recording
classes and
lectures!

RN-105
micro cassettes



your choice
only \$34.95

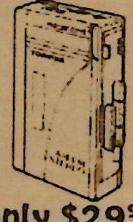
PICKERING CD-6

Digital Ready
Headphones
SAVE 50%
list \$79.95

only \$39.95

TOSHIBA KT-4018

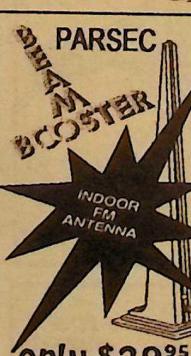
AM/FM Cassette Walkman



only \$29.95

IBM 1.44MB Disks

box of 10
only \$14.95



we accept



adirondack music

15 East Pleasant St., Amherst 253-3100
OPEN MONDAY THRU SATURDAY, 10AM TO 5PM

MAN LOSES HEAD

LOCAL BUSINESSMAN GOES BEZERK

By LOWON BRED

A.M.I. Advertising Department

AMHERST -- It has been reported by a totally unreliable source that the owner of **Adirondack Music**, located in downtown Amherst, was seen grabbing innocent passers-by off the sidewalk into the store, yelling at them, "Boy, have I got a deal for you!". Several of these victims were later observed leaving the premises with packages of stereo equipment, dazed and shaken, but with a seemingly peculiar, pleased look on their faces.

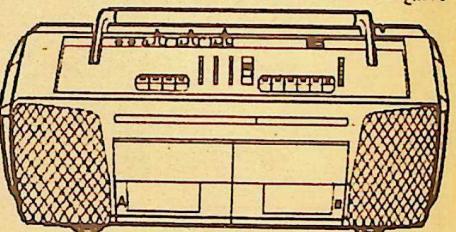
A respectable looking gentleman came out of the shop, who we at first mistook for a psychiatrist, until we notice the box under his arm. Prof. Noal Ott, as he introduced himself, explained, "It seems to have something to do with the general state of the economy. When the DOW plunges, retailers seem to think that they have to drastically reduce their prices to induce consumers to purchase. Like this **Magnavox CDB-492** CD player I just



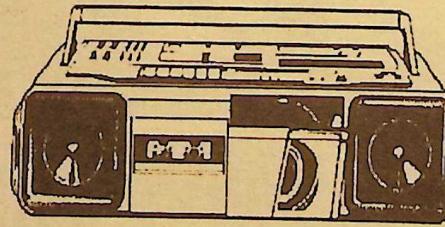
When the DOW plunges retailers... drastically reduce their prices

bought. A friend of mine purchased one here a few months ago for \$200, yet, I was able to take advantage of the apparent lunacy of the shopkeeper and purchase mine for only \$149.95. Quite a bargain."

A minute later, an elderly woman came out with a boom box in hand. "Such a nice man", exclaimed Ghetta Deel. "He gave

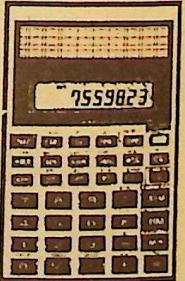


"That guy's nuts!", insisted M. T. Wallit, a local college student. "I don't know what he's on, but I sure'd like to have some. He practically begged me to buy this great **Toshiba RT-8069** CD boom box. I had looked at a couple of CD boxes elsewhere, but couldn't afford them. At first he wanted



He looked at me as if I was the man from Mars

\$270 for it, said I was crazy if I didn't buy it for that price, and laughed hysterically. Man what a loon. I told him that he gotta see a shrink. He looked at me as if I was the man from Mars. When I started to walk out, he started yelling out lower prices, "\$249.95", "\$229.95", "\$219.95". Just as I had opened the door he yelled, "Ok, \$199.95, not a penny less!" Now that was a deal I just couldn't pass up! It's a great machine, AM/FM cassette and programmable CD player!"



Our curiosity overwhelmed us. We just had to see for ourselves if the man was really bezerk. We cautiously entered the store and as soon as the door slammed shut behind us we were immediately confronted with, "How can you resist? A real, honest to goodness **solar calculator**, no batteries needed, ever, for the measly price of only \$1.99, and it's pocket sized so you can slip it out when no one's looking..." How could I resist? I couldn't. I even bought a digital clock to put on my desk for only 99¢!



As we left, we could hear the man muttering to himself, seemed to be something about having to sell his Porsche just so he could feed his poor, starving wife and kid...